

File name Amir Ghazi ibn Faisal al Hashimi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 125 of August 7, 1932*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for file and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation Feb. 23, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name al Hashimi Ghazi ibn Faisal
(Surname) (Given name)

Highest rank or title Emir, only son of King Faisal

Position --

Date appointed -- Party affiliations --

Birthplace Hajaz Date of birth 1913

Residence Baghdad, Iraq.

Education Private tutors; Baghdad Military School.

Reputation -- Personality Affable

Influence As yet none.

Previous career Was sent part of a year to Harrow but was brought back because, according to rumors, he devoted most of his time to sports. Is now in Military School at Baghdad where he is popular with his fellow students, is good at sports but not a brilliant scholar.

Attitude toward the United States --

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations --

Personal intelligence:

Marriage --

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations School - boy sports.

Clubs --

Lineage Direct descendant of the Prophet.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

This boy's character is unformed as yet, but if his father retains his throne he will be of some influence in Iraq within the next few years.

(Photograph attached.)

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H.R.H. Emir Chazi.

File name Nuri Pasha al Said Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 820 of August 7, 1928*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department. Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad Date of preparation February 23, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name al Said Nuri (sometimes spelled Noury)
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title General (military); Pasha (civil)

Position Prime Minister of Iraq

Date appointed March, 1930 Party affiliations Government or Ahd Party

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1888

Residence Baghdad

Education Secondary schools of Baghdad; Military College, Istanbul.

Reputation Excellent Personality Pleasant

Influence Predominate at present

Previous career Turkish army during Balkan wars; Arab forces in Hejaz; with Arab government at Damascus; in Iraq has served as Prime Minister, Minister of Defence in five (5) Cabinets and has acted as Minister of Interior and Minister of Economics and Communications.

Attitude toward the United States friendly

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Has no animosity toward foreign nations; is at present very close to Great Britain.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a Sunni Moslem, the sister of Ja'far Pasha al Askeri

Children One, a boy about 21; student at Cambridge.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Riding, tennis, bridge.

Clubs Iraqi Club; Alwiyah Club

Lineage Pure Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



صاحب المعالي نوري باشا السيد وزير الدفاع
H.E. Noury Pasha Al Said Minister of Defense Iraq

15 Hour
Baghdad

Nuri Pasha al Said, the present Prime Minister of Iraq, has served as Minister of Defence in the third, fourth, seventh, tenth, and eleventh cabinets, as Prime Minister and Minister of Economics and Communications in the twelfth cabinet and as Minister of Interior as well as Prime Minister in the thirteenth (the present) cabinet.

Nuri Pasha, who is a Sunni Moslem, was born in Baghdad in 1888. His family which was not very important in the social, political or business world of Baghdad, was sufficiently wealthy to educate him in the

military

military schools of the city and to send him to the military college at Constantinople. He did not particularly distinguish himself as a student but he was very popular with his fellow students and with the members of the faculty. While in Constantinople he became interested in the Arab movement for independence and joined Aziz Ali Beg, one of the most noted of the leaders of this movement. After he was graduated from the military college of Constantinople he was assigned to the Sixth Army Corps, later to the staff college and during the Balkan war served with the Turkish army in the field. After this war he returned to Iraq, but having learned that Turkish officials suspected him of being engaged in revolutionary activities fled to Egypt, returning to Iraq only after the British had occupied Basrah in 1914. For the next two years he was one of the followers of Said Talib Pasha al Naqib, a political leader who practically ruled the southern part of Iraq at this time. At the outbreak of the Arab revolt Nuri Pasha joined the Arab forces in the Hejaz and was shortly made chief of staff of these forces. When the Arab Government was established by Amir Faisal at Damascus he was given several important posts in his Government. After the overthrow of this Government he accompanied Amir Faisal to Europe and acted as his chief adviser, eventually conducting negotiations with British officials in London which finally lead to the establishment of a national Government in Iraq and the placing of King Faisal on the throne. Nuri Pasha accompanied His Majesty

to

to Iraq and has maintained his connections with the King up to the present.

In Iraq Nuri Pasha has served in some capacity in the Government for all of its life and when Najfi Pasha al Suwaidi's cabinet resigned in March, 1930, he was called upon to form a new cabinet. This he did and he has held power as Prime Minister since that date.

The Cabinet which he formed was not considered to be a strong one and was chiefly notable for the fact that every minister, except the Shiah Minister of Education, had served as an officer in King Faisal's Arab forces.

During the last two years Nuri Pasha has proven himself to be a clever negotiator, and a good diplomat, as well as a good fighter. He has so strengthened his position with the Chamber of Deputies and with the Senate that these bodies will do what he wants. When his Cabinet was first formed, his brother-in-law, Ja'far Pasha al Askeri, was considered to be its strongest member, but that is not the case at the present time as that official, who has been acting as Prime Minister for the last three months while Nuri Pasha has been in Europe, has not been able to handle the Chamber of Deputies, and important Government legislation is being held over until Nuri Pasha can handle the matter personally.

Upon assuming office as Prime Minister, Nuri Pasha decided that the Chamber of Deputies as it was then formed could not be depended upon and immediately dissolved it. This was a rather arbitrary action which was violently denounced by the Opposition as Unconstitutional.

However,

However, undisturbed by this criticism Nuri Pasha left the preparations for the ensuing elections in the hands of his Cabinet and spent the summer in London negotiating with the Iraq Petroleum Company. When he returned, he found that the Opposition had gained great power in two or three sections of the country. He immediately transferred the Minister of Interior, the officer chiefly responsible for handling election matters, to the Ministry of Finance, took over the duties of the Ministry of Interior himself, and arranged matters so efficiently within a few weeks that in October elections only those candidates whom he selected were elected. However, during his absence the Opposition had been very active and as soon as Parliament was assembled began to give him a great deal of trouble. Indeed during November and December, 1930, and during part of January, 1931, it was believed that he would be forced out of power. However, he fought incessantly and finally won out by drawing from their ranks two of their most prominent leaders, Muzahim Beg al Pachachi, whom he made Minister of Interior, and Tawfik Beg al Suwaidi, whom he sent to Teheran as Minister.

It must be admitted that Nuri Pasha has been supported by King Faisal and by the British, mainly for the reason that he has either followed out their policies or his own policies have met with their approval. However, he has not been in the least sycophantic, but has fought strenuously when British desires have not met with his approval. He has had many arguments with the High

Commissioner

Commissioner and has often carried his point. One night when I was invited to dinner at the Residency and the High Commissioner was late, Lady Humphrys said to me in an exasperated manner: "This is the fault of Nuri Pasha. That man will argue and argue for hours and has often kept Sir Francis in his office long after the dinner hour".

He is popular with the people partly for the reason that he made a reputation for bravery during the Arab revolt which endears him to them as a man without fear, and partly for the reason that he knows how to handle them, greeting them as friends and confidants when that seems to be the policy to be pursued and being stern and a strict disciplinarian when necessity seems to demand this attitude. That his reputation as a fighter was not undeserved was indicated prior to the elections of 1930, at which time he fought Yassin Pasha al Hashimi to such an extent as to lead his brother-in-law, Ja'far Pasha al Askeri, to warn him that he could not live in Iraq were Yassin Pasha to become Prime Minister.

His Cabinet has not supported him at all times, nor has he ever received full cooperation from them. On numerous occasions this or that group of Ministers has threatened to resign, but Nuri Pasha has been able in all cases except that of Muzahim Beg al Pachachi to smooth matters over and avert a crisis. It is probable that this attitude of his Cabinet is due in part to the fact that several of them have had connections with Yassin Pasha al Hashimi and are still considered to be ready to support that Opposition leader. It is possible also

that

that it is in part the result of his own actions as on numerous occasions he has usurped their prerogatives, and has made decisions pertaining to their ministries without consulting them, giving as his only excuse that the action taken was necessary and consequently no discussion of the matter was needed.

While Nuri Pasha will use force to put through his measures, he prefers to use any other tactics. He has often made statements before Parliament in order to influence votes which did not recite the facts. For example, he stated prior to going to Jeddah to negotiate treaties with the Kingdom of the Hejaz and Nejd, that matters pertaining to an Arab Federation would be discussed; later a denial that King Ibn Saud had agreed to discuss that matter was issued at Jeddah. While the negotiations were going on with the Iraq Petroleum Company he announced in Parliament that the Company had agreed to make such and such annual payments; Sir John Cadman told me a few days later that this matter had been discussed, but that nothing even approaching a definite agreement had been reached. However, he has been very lucky, as he has made most of his statements come true.

During his term of office he has carried through the following important matters:

Successful negotiations with the Iraq Petroleum Company and ratification of a new Agreement with that Company;

Treaties of friendship and amity, commerce, etc., with the Kingdom of the Hejaz and Nejd;

Treaties

Treaties of friendship and amity, commerce, etc., with Trans-Jordania;

Treaties of friendship and amity and of commerce with the Yemen;

Treaties of friendship and amity, commerce, etc. with Turkey;

He has carried on negotiations for similar treaties with Syria and Persia which are now in such shape that, so it is reported, signatures only are necessary.

Very recently he settled the dispute with the Iraq Petroleum Company over the payment of the annuity, and successfully maintained Iraq's viewpoint.

Moreover he quickly and successfully put an end to a serious general strike in the country which occurred during the summer of 1931 and which seemingly could not be handled by his Cabinet while he was absent in Europe. During his term of office he established the Iraqi Air Force, which now consists of nine trained Iraqi pilots. He has increased the army and made it more efficient. He has succeeded in gradually diminishing the power of the British advisers (this may of course be partly accounted for by the fact that the British are gradually preparing to give up the mandate), and his Cabinet ministers have more power than those who ever served before. He has also succeeded in gradually diminishing the numbers of the British who serve as civilian employees of the Government, and it is understood that their rapid disappearance from public life will be accelerated in the near future.

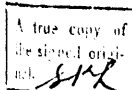
Nuri Pasha is not the care free and light hearted man who took up the position of Prime Minister. Two

years

years of constant struggle to hold his party together, to withstand the attacks of the Opposition, to get good terms from the Iraq Petroleum Company, to withstand British demands have made their impression upon him. It is known that he has requested to be permitted to resign, alleging that his health will not permit him to carry on the duties of Prime Minister, but expressing his willingness to serve in any other capacity. His appearance amply supports his contention that he is not well.

Nuri Pasha married the sister of Ja'far Pasha al Askeri, one of the leading men in the country. He has one son, but no daughters. The son has been for some years a student at Cambridge, where he is reported to be doing well in his studies. He has lately obtained an English Government's air pilot license and will probably be in the Iraq air force when he returns to the country. Nuri Pasha's wife is without doubt the most popular Iraqi woman in Baghdad, as far at least as the foreign colonies are concerned.

Nuri Pasha is a very affable man who never insists upon being regarded as the Prime Minister. He associates to a great extent with the foreign colony and is frequently to be seen on the tennis courts of the Alwiyah Club. He and his wife are good contract bridge players and are to be met often in British homes where that game is played. Both of them are most hospitable hosts even when contrasted with other Arabs whose hospitality is proverbial.



AKS/SKL

File name Taufik Beg al Suwaidi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 120* of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation Feb. 23, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name al Suwaidi Taufik
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Former Prime Minister of Iraq.

Position Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at
Teheran, Persia.

Date appointed January 17, 1931 Party affiliations at present Government Party.

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1891

Residence Baghdad, Iraq.

Education Primary at Baghdad; Law School at Istanbul; 2 years law
course at Paris.

Reputation Excellent Personality Agreeable

Influence Quite great in certain sections of the country; probably
one of the coming powerful men of the country.

Previous career.....

See memorandum.

Attitude toward the United States friendly.

Service in the United States none.

Attitude toward other nations friendly; pro-British.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a daughter of Abdul Kerim as Sa'dun, one of the
most prominent families of the country.

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Bridge

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Pure Arab descent.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum.



The Suwaidi (spelled also Swaidi or Suaidi) family has not been prominent in either financial or political circles of Baghdad until recent years. Yusuf Effendi al Suwaidi, the father of the present Minister to Persia, was a moderately wealthy landholder of Baghdad and during the latter years of his life an influential Sunni Moslem. After the war Yusuf Effendi began to take a prominent part in politics, being known for his extreme views as to complete and immediate independence for Iraq. As a prominent Sunni he formed one of the Committee which attempted with some success to unite Sunni and Shiah to

resist

resist the placing of Iraq under a mandatory power. The work of this Committee culminated in the disturbances of 1920, and for his part in fomenting this disturbance the British tried to arrest him, but he fled from the country. A few years afterwards he was permitted to return, and while, until his death a few years ago, he was again active in politics having been President of the Chamber of Deputies on several occasions, he never again actively opposed the mandatory power.

Taufik Beg al Suwaidi was born in Baghdad in 1891. He completed his primary and secondary education in the schools of Baghdad and was sent to Constantinople in 1908, graduating from the Law School of that city in 1912. He then took a law course for two years in Paris, returning to Baghdad prior to the outbreak of the war. During the war he served as a reserve officer in the Turkish army until 1918. During the period 1918 to 1921 he lived at Damascus, where he served as a judge in the courts but resigning this position after a short time accepted the position of instructor in Roman and International Law at the Damascus Law School. In 1921 he returned to Baghdad where he was immediately appointed Assistant Counsellor to the Government and was at the same time made the Director of the Iraq Law School. Shortly afterwards he was promoted to the position of Counsellor to the Government and instructor in Roman Law and Political Economy in the Law School. His Government posts since that time have been as follows:

July

July 20, 1925, appointed Director of Administration in the Ministry of Justice and served until January 14, 1928;

On January 14, 1928, he was appointed Minister of Education in Abdul Muhsin al Sa'dun's Cabinet (in order to comply with the constitutional law which is to the effect that a Minister cannot serve more than six months in a cabinet position unless he is a member of the Chamber of Deputies, he was elected to that position as a Deputy from the Dulaim Liwa on May 9, 1928). In this Cabinet he was said to have been the Prime Minister's right hand man.

During the recess of Parliament he was appointed as the Iraq Delegate to the Jeddah Conference and left Baghdad on that mission in July, 1928, returning to the city upon the failure of the conference.

He was appointed in October, 1928, as one of the three delegates to negotiate the revision of the Financial and Military Agreements with the British High Commissioner. The result of these negotiations brought about a political deadlock and the Sa'dun Cabinet resigned about the first of the year 1929, but consented to act until a new cabinet was formed.

On April 29, 1929, Taufik Beg was called upon to form Iraq's ninth cabinet. He did so, and in this cabinet was Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs as well as Acting Minister of Awqaf. Shortly after his assumption of his new duties a Labor Government came into control in England, and this event lead Iraqi politicians to believe that Iraq would now have the opportunity

to

to move more quickly toward independence and admission to the League of Nations; their belief was strengthened when in August, the British Government declared their policy regarding England's relations with Egypt, and especially their promise regarding Egypt's candidature for membership in the League. The King and the prominent politicians desired a more experienced Cabinet in power so that any opportunity offered might be quickly seized, and consequently Taufik Beg was urged to resign. He resisted for some two months, but finally in August the pressure became too strong for him and he handed in his resignation, and withdrew from power on September 19, 1929. Shortly afterwards when the new Chamber of Deputies met on November 2, 1929, he was elected as President of that body and served in that position until the end of the session in March, 1930.

Taufik Beg and his brother Naji Pasha, also a former Prime Minister, joined the party in opposition to Nuri Pasha al Said, the present Prime Minister, and worked against him in the elections which were held in October, 1930. Taufik Beg ran again for election as the member from the Dulaim Liwa where he was very popular, but shortly before the elections, seeing the attitude of the Government and the "steam-roller" tactics being employed, he withdrew as a candidate and consequently was not a member of the new Parliament which was opened on November 1, 1930. While both he and his brother, Naji Pasha, were rather active as opposition leaders, and caused some trouble to the Prime Minister, Nuri Pasha, neither of them are

extremists

extremists and soon withdrew from active participation in opposition activities. As a result of Nuri Pasha's efforts to split the opposition Muzahim Beg Pachachi, one of the extreme opposition leaders was induced to accept the position of Minister of Communications and Works on January 5, 1931, and twelve days later Taufik Beg was appointed to and accepted the position of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Teheran.

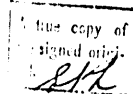
Taufik Beg has now been at Teheran for almost a year. From all accounts of his work there, he has succeeded in managing a difficult post in an acceptable manner. Some rumors have been rife recently to the effect that there will be Cabinet changes in the near future, and his name is always mentioned in that connection for one of the portfolios.

Taufik Beg has had a good education and has gained a much wider knowledge of foreign affairs than have most of the prominent Iraqi politicians. He speaks French fluently, Turkish fluently, English well and is said to have some knowledge of Persian. He was a prominent member of the Iraqi Club and most assiduous in his attendance, being very fond of contract bridge. He is most hospitable host and a popular man not only with his fellow countrymen, but with the foreign colony of Baghdad. He is said to be not quite so clever as his more prominent brother, Naji Pasha al Suwaidi, and is certainly not so good a speaker; however, he is straight forward in his methods, calm in troublous times and a man who will undoubtedly become a power in the country.

His

His political viewpoint is rather hard to ascertain, but is probably that of most of the Iraqi politicians and changes as his own personal advantage dictates.

AKS/SKL



File name Ja'far Pasha al Askari Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NOTE.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 589 of August 7, 1926, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Feb. 25, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name al Askari Ja'far
(Surname) (Given name)

Highest rank or title Prime Minister of Iraq (civil)

Position Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence.

Date appointed March, 1930 Party affiliations Government ("Ahd") party.

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1885

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary schools of Baghdad; Military College, Istanbul.

Reputation Excellent Personality Affable

Influence One of the most influential men in the country

Previous career Served in Turkish army during early years of the war; joined the revolting Arab forces in 1916. In Iraq he served as Minister of Defence in three cabinets, Minister for Foreign Affairs in two cabinets, Prime Minister in two cabinets and has served for some years as Iraq's diplomatic representative in London.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Very pro-British; was for a time anti-French.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married sister of Nuri Pasha as said

Children Three sons and two daughters.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Bridge

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Pure Arab descent

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a Journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum attached.



صاحب القلم جعفر باشا العسكري

H. E. Jaffar Pasha Al Askari.

J. S. Hoar
Bagdad

JA'FAR PASHA AL ASKERI.

Ja'far Pasha al Askeri was born in Baghdad in 1885. He is a Sunni Moslem and his family is of pure Arab blood and of great social and political prominence. He received his primary education in the schools of Baghdad and was sent by the Turkish Government to complete his education in the Military College at Istanbul. During the early years of the war he served as an officer in the Turkish army and was awarded the Iron Cross by the Germans for his service in the Semissi desert in the western portion of Egypt. In that year he was captured by the Dorset Yeomanry regiment and sent as a prisoner of war to Cairo.

When

When the Arab revolt broke out he renounced his allegiance to Turkey and joined the Arab army in the Hejaz where he performed so well that he was decorated by the British. After the war he served in various capacities in the short-lived Arabian Government of Syria and came to Iraq in October 1920. His ability was immediately recognized and he was appointed Minister of Defence in the Cabinet of the Naqib which functioned prior to the arrival of King Faisal in the country. Since that time Ja'far Pasha has been Minister of Defence in three Cabinets, Minister for Foreign Affairs in two Cabinets and Prime Minister in two Cabinets. During the last few years he has also acted for short periods of time as Iraq diplomatic representative in London.

He is popular in Iraq and is also popular in England. On several occasions while he has been Iraq's diplomatic representative at London the regiment which captured him, The Dorset Yeomanry regiment, has given a banquet in his honor on the anniversary of his capture. While he was stationed in London he studied law and passed the English bar examinations and is the first Iraqi and possibly the first Arab to have done so.

The men of Ja'far Pasha's family are of medium stature but very fat. It is said that his father weighed over 300 pounds and Ja'far Pasha, when he went to London, although about five feet eight inches in height weighed about 250 pounds. While studying for the law he also took a very strenuous treatment for overweight. He was

successful

successful in his efforts along this line but unfortunately over exercised or dieted too rigorously and as a consequence has dilated his heart. He also suffers from gallstone and his physical condition is such as to make it extremely unlikely that he will engage much longer in an active political life such as politicians must lead in present Iraq.

When Nuri Pasha formed his first Cabinet in March, 1930, Ja'far Pasha, his brother-in-law, had been assigned as Iraqi Minister to Persia for the reason that the Iraq Government believed they must have a very strong man in that country. However, Nuri Pasha rescinded these orders and Ja'far Pasha was ordered to Baghdad to take over the duties of the Minister of Defence. The main reason however, for putting him in the Cabinet was in order to hand over the duties of the Prime Minister to him while Nuri Pasha was in London during that summer. Ja'far Pasha, although a weak man, although he was suffering from gallstone and although he fainted in one or two conferences because of heart trouble, carried on the duties of his office during the hot summer of 1930 in a very efficient manner, as was to be expected. As soon as the Prime Minister returned Ja'far Pasha resigned his Cabinet position and was elected as President of the Chamber of Deputies where his popularity and his organizing ability was of great service to his party. He held this most difficult position very successfully during the turbulent period of November, December, 1930 and January, 1931, during which

the

the Opposition was causing the Government party a great deal of worry and as a matter of fact was threatening for a time to force them out of office. As soon as the power of the Opposition was broken, Ja'far Pasha insisted upon returning to London as Iraq's diplomatic representative. He served in London until October, 1931, but was recalled by Nuri Pasha in that month for the reason that Jamil Beg al Madfai, President of the Chamber of Deputies, had revolted against Nuri Pasha and was causing the Prime Minister a great deal of worry. As soon as Ja'far Pasha reached Baghdad he was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies to take the place of a deputy who had recently died and became the Government candidate for the presidency of that chamber. He was elected of course, but did not hold the office long for the reason that the differences between the Prime Minister and Jamil Beg al Madfai were soon smoothed over and that politician was returned to his former office. He then became Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defense.

Ja'far Pasha is very strongly pro-British. This is not for political reasons but is due to his personal feelings. He has no desire to live in Iraq, his sole thought being to return to London, if possible as Iraq's diplomatic representative but if that is not possible, as a private citizen. On numerous occasions he has sacrificed his personal inclinations to the wishes of King Faisal and has thrown himself into the political turmoil of Iraq when he was not physically fitted to do so. He

believes

believes that he has sacrificed enough for the Government and it is very possible that he will force King Faisal and his brother-in-law, the Prime Minister, to send him to London again in the near future.

Ja'far Pasha was long considered to be one of the most popular and one of the strongest men in the country. Of late months, however, his power seems to have been waning as during the last two months he has been acting as Prime Minister and has not been able to put through Government bills which it is believed the Prime Minister will have no difficulty in passing as soon as he returns to the country. It is very possible that his ill health, his consequent inability to handle matters in the calm and efficient manner which characterized his former political life has brought about this result. It is also possible that his ill health has caused him to be very impatient with his fellow countrymen who are members of the Chamber of Deputies. On one occasion when I commented on a violently anti-British speech which had been made a few days previously on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies, he said to me in an exasperated tone of voice: "Unfortunately in my country the man who damns England most heartily is considered to be the greatest patriot. My fellow countrymen have no gratitude for what Great Britain has done for them, in fact the majority of them have no knowledge of what Great Britain has done. They believe that we are capable of establishing and maintaining a suitable government after only ten years of national life. They want to run before they have learned to crawl." Ja'far Pasha was also very impatient with the

election

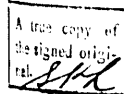
election laws of the country and asked me why his vote was equal only to the vote of one ignorant, unlettered, and uncultured day laborer. He expressed the opinion that the vote of an educated Iraqi should have two or three times the value of the vote of an uneducated Iraqi; that the vote of an educated Iraqi who had traveled beyond the boundaries of Iraq should have more value than the vote of an Iraqi who had been educated in the country and who have never visited other lands.

As stated before Ja'far Pasha at present is very desirous of getting out of Iraq and insists that he does not intend to again take an active part in the politics of his country. It is probable that after a year or so of rest in London he will again be in the thick of the political fight at Baghdad, for he is too popular a man, too experienced an official, and too capable a man to be permitted to disassociate himself from his Government and without doubt he will be forced to return within a short time if that is in any way possible.

File 644.
AKS/SAL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Naji Pasha al Suwaidi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NOTE.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 520 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad Date of preparation Feb. 26, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Al Suwaidi Naji
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title ex-Prime Minister of Iraq

Position Is out of politics at present

Date appointed — Party affiliations "Progressive" Party

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1882

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary schools of Baghdad; Law School, Istanbul

Reputation Excellent Personality Pleasant

Influence Has a large following

Previous career Civil governor of Aleppo during time of Arab Kingdom there; in Iraq was a member of Chamber of Deputies from beginning of Iraq's Government until he resigned in February, 1931. Has served on different occasions as Minister of Justice, Minister of Interior and Prime Minister.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Pro-British; not unfriendly to any foreign nation.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married Sunni Moslem (Arab) woman of good family.

Children —

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations bridge

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Pure Arab descent.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and prediction, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



NAJI PASHA AL SUWAIDI

The Suwaidi (spelled also Swaidi or Suaidi) family was not prominent in either the financial or political circles of Baghdad until the last fifteen years. Yusuf Effendi al Suwaidi, the father of the two brothers who are so prominent in the Iraqi affairs, was a moderately wealthy landholder of Baghdad who did not mix in politics during the Turkish regime in the country, but who came to the front during the war and who created for himself a large following after the conclusion of the war by advocating complete and immediate independence for Iraq. He was a prominent but not a fanatical Sunni Moslem and

it was mainly due to his efforts that the Shiah Moslems were induced to unite with Sunni Moslems in opposing the military rule of Great Britain in the country. The work of the committee of which he was such a prominent member finally lead to the revolt of 1920. This revolt failed and the British authorities attempted to arrest him. His reputation with the people was enhanced by the dramatic method by which he effected his escape from the British police, as he disguised himself as an elderly woman and traveled into Syria in one of the desert caravans. A few years afterwards the British granted amnesty to the political exiles and Yusuf Effendi returned to Baghdad. He again took an active part in politics and was elected to the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies on several occasions, but until the day of his death, which occurred a few years ago, he did not resume his opposition to the mandatory power. During the latter years of his life he was actively assisted in his political campaigns by his four sons, one of whom is a prominent medical doctor of Baghdad, another a judge in the Civil Court, a third became Prime Minister of the country and is now Iraq's Minister to Persia, and a fourth, Naji Pasha al Suwaidi, the most prominent of the four brothers, has served not only as Prime Minister of the country but in various other cabinet positions.

Naji Pasha al Suwaidi was born in Baghdad in 1882. He received his primary education in the schools of the city and was sent by his father to take the law course in the Law College of Istanbul. After graduating from this school he practiced his profession for a time and

first

first entered Government service when he was appointed by Emir Faisal as Civil Governor of Aleppo, which office he held throughout the short life of the Arabian Government of Syria. After the revolt of 1920 in Iraq, he returned to the country and since that time has served as Minister of Interior in two cabinets, Minister of Justice in one cabinet, Minister for Foreign Affairs in one cabinet, and Prime Minister in the cabinet he was called upon to form after the death of Sir Abdul Muhsin as Sadun in November, 1929.

Naji Pasha al Suwaidi has the reputation of being a very clever and conservative politician. In contrast to many of the political leaders of the country he seems to make no move without studying the situation from all angles possible. He has a pleasing personality, is a most hospitable host, and is very popular with a large section of the population. During the short life of the cabinet which he formed, which lasted only four months, he took up very actively together with Yassin Pasha al Hashimi, who was his Minister of Finance, the question of reducing Government expenditures drastically in order to balance the budget. He presented a scheme which called for the consolidation of many Government offices, the reduction in staff of many other offices, and the consequent discharge of many British civilians who were employed by the Government. This scheme did not meet with the approval of the High Commissioner, Sir Francis Humphrys, and Naji Pasha not feeling himself powerful enough to combat the High Commissioner's influence resigned in March, 1930. During the summer of that year

he

he, together with the members of his former cabinet, formed an Opposition party and began to campaign for the election of their followers (to positions in the Chamber of Deputies) in the elections which were to take place in October. The Opposition soon found that the party of King Faisal and Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, intended to use "steam roller" tactics to have elected only those who would support the policy of the new cabinet. Some of the Opposition leaders began a campaign to boycott the election but this extreme action was never favored by Naji Pasha. In the Fall elections, Naji Pasha, Yassin Pasha al Hashimi, Ali Jawdat Beg, and Rashid al Gailani, four of the Opposition leaders, and five of their followers secured seats in the Chamber of Deputies. For some weeks after Parliament assembled in December the Opposition leaders believed that they could gradually draw to their party enough Deputies to force Nuri Pasha's Cabinet out of office. The Opposition's chief argument at this time was that certain terms of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 1930, which had been rushed through Parliament by Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, in the first day of its session, should be revised. However, Government had worked too efficiently in selecting the members of the Chamber of Deputies and the Opposition found that they could do nothing. Consequently Yassin Pasha and certain other of the leaders decided to impress the King with their power by uniting with the Nationalist party, which is the extreme Opposition party, is composed mostly of Shiahhs, and insists

upon

upon the repudiation of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 1930. This move did not jibe with the conservative ideas of Naji Pasha nor did the bitter attack, which the Opposition now began to launch against the Government, please him. He therefore resigned his position as a member of the Chamber of Deputies in February, 1931 giving as his reason ill health brought about by the constant political turmoil and a desire for rest. The Government party refused to accept his resignation but were reluctantly compelled to do so a month or so later as he declined to attend the meetings of the Chamber of Deputies and refused to confer with the political leaders on any subject.

After his resignation Naji Pasha spent some months traveling in Europe, in Eastern Mediterranean countries, and in visiting his brother Taufik Beg al Suwaidi at Teheran. He is at the present time not taking an active part in the politics of the country, but is residing quietly in his home at Baghdad and gathering around him his friends. He is regarded by both the politicians and the public as a strong man; he is respected by all classes of the people; and without doubt, since he is only 49 years of age, his political life is by no means over and he should exercise a great influence on the future history of his country.

File 844.
AKS/SKL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris, France.

812

File name Jamal Beg Baban Nationality Iraqi.
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Control Diplomatic Serial 137 of August 7, 1930, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for the
and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation Feb. 27, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan.

Family name Baban Jamal
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Justice

Position Minister of Justice

Date appointed March, 1930 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party.

Birthplace Sulaimaniyah, Iraq Date of birth 1893

Residence Baghdad.

Education Schools of Baghdad.

Reputation Good Personality Pleasant

Influence Not much, except in Kurdish districts.

Previous career Served in Turkish army until Arab revolt. Served under
Emir Faisal at Damascus. Practiced law in Baghdad. Served in
various minor judicial capacities in Iraq from 1924 to 1930 when
he was appointed Minister of Justice in Nuri Pasha's first Cabinet.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Anti-British

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married to a Kurdish woman.

Children One son, three years old.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Bridge

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Kurd

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection,
if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if
any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



JAMAL BEG BABAN.

Jamal Beg Baban was born in Sulaimaniyah in 1893. He is a Kurd, his family being one of the most powerful in the northeastern section of Iraq. He received his early educational training in the Military School of Baghdad and later attended and graduated from the Law School of that city. At the outbreak of the war he enlisted as a private in the Turkish army but was soon promoted to be a non-commissioned officer and in 1915 was made a 2nd Lieutenant. In the battle of Um al Taboul he was captured by the British and sent as a
prisoner

prisoner of war to India. At the outbreak of the Arab revolt he was released by the British and immediately joined the Arab forces in the Hejaz. He accompanied the Arab forces to Damascus where he was given command of a battery of artillery and the rank of Captain. When the Arab forces were driven from Damascus he returned to Iraq and began to practice law. In 1924 he was made an Assistant Criminal Magistrate in Baghdad and later on in the same year was promoted to be a Judge in the Civil Courts. He did not hold this position long as he was soon transferred to Sulaimaniyah as a civil magistrate. Three years later he was elected a member of the House of Deputies to represent Erbil Liwa, a Kurdish district. In March, 1930 he was appointed Minister of Justice in Nuri Pasha al Said's first Cabinet and given the same portfolio when that official formed his second Cabinet.

While Jamal Beg Baban has always carried out the duties of the various offices he has held in an acceptable manner, he has never demonstrated that he was a particularly brilliant man nor a hard worker. Without doubt he secured his Cabinet position, not on account of his abilities, but from the fact that he is a member of a powerful Kurdish family and it is Government policy to have at least one Kurd in the Cabinet. He is not popular with the Prime Minister, Nuri Pasha, who believes him to be a follower of Yassin Pasha al Hashimi, the Chief Opposition leader. Moreover, Jamal Beg supported very actively, some years ago, Kurdish aspirations for an autonomous government and it is rumored that while he

cannot

cannot, of course, openly support Kurdish demands, he sympathizes with them and would prefer to see the Kurdish districts of the country independent of the Government of Iraq or at least under British supervision.

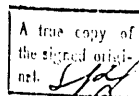
Jamal Beg does not have a wide circle of friends or acquaintances but associates chiefly with the Kurdish deputies. He appears to be an even tempered and cheerful man and does not have a reputation as a fighter. His chief amusement seems to be contract bridge, which game he plays with only a fair amount of skill.

It is not probable that Jamal Beg will ever wield much influence in the Iraq Government, but it is possible that he may take an active part in championing the Kurdish cause and due to his family influence may wield some power. He speaks, in addition to his own language, a fair amount of English and is said to speak French fluently.

File 844.
AKS/SKL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Jamil Beg al Rawi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NOTE.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 520 of August 7, 1939*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation Feb. 27, 1939 Prepared by A. K. Sloan.

Family name Rawi (Surname) Jamil (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Communications and Works.

Position Present position: member of Chamber of Deputies.

Date appointed October, 1930 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party.

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq. Date of birth 1892

Residence Baghdad

Education Schools in Baghdad; Military College at Istanbul.

Reputation Excellent Personality Pleasant.

Influence Not much, except with ex-King Ali, King Faisal's eldest brother.

Previous career Served with Emir Ali, King Hussein's eldest son, during Arab revolt. Aid-de-camp to King Ali of the Hajaz. Master of Ceremonies at King Faisal's Court in Iraq. Vice President of Iraqi Chamber of Deputies. Minister of Economics and Communications in Nuri Pasha's first Cabinet. Now member of Chamber of Deputies.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly.

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations --

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Widower

Children One son three years old and one daughter four years old.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations none.

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and prodiction, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



JAMIL BEG AL RAWI.

Jamil Beg al Rawi was born in 1892 in Baghdad. He attended the military schools in the city and later attended and graduated from the Military College in Istanbul. He served with the Turkish army only a short time, as he joined the Arab army in Hejaz upon the outbreak of hostilities between the Arabs and the Turks. He remained in the Hejaz for ten years, holding several important positions among which was that of Military Governor of Medina. Later he became aide-de-camp to King Ali of Hejaz and was appointed Minister of War during the Wahabi invasion of that country. He accompanied ex-King Ali on his flight from the Hejaz and came

with

with him to Baghdad.

In 1926 he was made the Master of Ceremonies at King Faisal's court. The next year he was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies and soon became the Vice President of that Chamber as well as the Vice President of the Ahd or Government Party. Due to ex-King Ali's insistence, Nuri Pasha was persuaded to give to him the portfolio of Communications and Works in his first Cabinet, but shortly transferred him to the Ministry of Defence. Jamil Beg and the Prime Minister did not get along well from the first, as Nuri Pasha felt that he was not a capable man and did not want him in the Cabinet. Moreover, Jamil Beg became disgruntled at the result of the elections of October, 1930, since certain of his candidates were not successful, and threatened to resign. At the time the Prime Minister was very anxious to present a united party front to the Opposition and was therefore compelled to compromise.

Due to the disturbance created by Jamil Beg al Madfai in his attack upon Muzahim Beg al Pachachi in the summer of 1931, Nuri Pasha's first Cabinet resigned. It is probable, however, that a means could have been found by the Prime Minister to have gotten Muzahim Beg out of the Cabinet without allowing matters to go to such an extent, but the situation was not wholly unpleasant to either King Faisal or Nuri Pasha. King Faisal wanted Dr. Abdullah Beg Damluji, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, out of the Cabinet as he disliked him extremely. Nuri Pasha wanted to get rid of both Jamil Beg al Rawi and Rustum Beg Maidar. In his new Cabinet neither Muzahim Beg

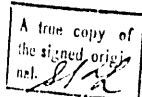
Beg al Pachachi, Dr. Abdullah Damluji or Jamil Beg al Rawi were included.

Jamil Beg al Rawi is a slight man of the student rather than the warrior type. He is well liked by his subordinates who state that he is a very just and considerate man. However, in his conduct of the business of his office he never displayed any great amount of energy or ability and it is not probable that he will ever have any great power in Iraq. However, as long as ex-King Ali remains in the country, Jamil Beg will have a certain power due to the backing of the King's brother.

File 844.
AKS/EKL

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Muzahim Amin Beg al Pachachi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NOTE.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 589 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
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Post Baghdad Date of preparation Feb. 26, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan.

Family name Pachachi Muzahim Amin
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Interior; Acting Prime Minister

Position at present member of Chamber of Deputies.

elected
Date appointed March, 1931 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party.

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1888

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary schools of Baghdad; Law College, Istanbul.

Reputation At present not much if any. Personality Arrogant.

Influence At present he has little influence.

Previous career Practising lawyer; newspaper editor; during war Chief

Translator of law courts of Basrah; Minister of Communications

and Works in 1925; Minister of Interior and Acting Prime Minister

in 1931.

Attitude toward the United States friendly.

Service in the United States none.

Attitude toward other nations Anti-English and anti-French.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a second cousin

Children One daughter

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations

Clubs Iraqi

Lineage Pure Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum.

File name Muzahim Amin Beg al Pachachi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 580 of August 7, 1926*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad Date of preparation Feb. 26, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan.

Family name Pachachi Muzahim Amin
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Interior; Acting Prime Minister

Position at present member of Chamber of Deputies.

elected
Date appointed March, 1931 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party.

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1888

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary schools of Baghdad; Law College, Istanbul.

Reputation At present not much if any. Personality Arrogant.

Influence At present he has little influence.

Previous career Practising lawyer; newspaper editor; during war Chief

Translator of law courts of Basrah. Minister of Communications

and Works in 1925; Minister of Interior and Acting Prime Minister

in 1931.

Attitude toward the United States friendly.

Service in the United States none.

Attitude toward other nations Anti-English and anti-French

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a second cousin

Children One daughter

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations

Clubs Iraqi

Lineage Pure Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum.



MUZAHIM AMIN BEG AL PACHACHI

Muzahim Bachachi was born in Baghdad in 1888. He attended elementary and secondary schools of the city and graduated from the Law School in Istanbul. After graduation he returned to Baghdad and began the practice of law. The prominence of his family and their influence in both the social and financial circles of the city assisted him in his profession and he very shortly earned the reputation of being a clever young lawyer. Muzahim Beg was not content with establishing a reputation through legal work alone, but within a few years, lead on by his desire for publicity, he established a newspaper in which he constantly attacked the Turkish officials and their

rule

rule. He did not carry on in this manner for a very long time until he incurred the enmity of Turkish officials in Baghdad and was compelled to move to Basrah where Turkish officials had little real power. He was living in Basrah at the time the British forces occupied the city in 1914. As he spoke English to an extent he applied for and obtained a position as translator in the courts. By assiduity in studying the English language and in studying Indian and military law he soon obtained and held until the end of the war the position of Chief Translator in the Civil Court.

After the war he again practiced law. The knowledge he had gained of Indian and military law benefited him greatly and he rapidly increased the modest fortune he had inherited from his father.

His ability as an orator gave him a prominent place in the community and his wealth and social position together with his knowledge of law gave him a prominent place in the political, business, and social life of Iraq. This was recognized by Yassin Pasha al Hashimi, who, when called upon to form a cabinet in August, 1924, gave him the portfolio of Communications and Works. This was the cabinet which carried through the first Convention with the Iraq Petroleum Company and Muzahim Beg being Minister of Communications and Works signed this Convention and was accused at the time and is still accused of having accepted a large bribe for doing so. Yassin Pasha's cabinet was forced out of office due to the agitation against the oil Convention and Muzahim Beg returned to Hillah, in which district his own and his wife's tribes

reside

reside, campaigned for and gained a seat in the Chamber of Deputies. For the next few years he utilized all his undoubted oratorical powers in constant fulminations against the Government, advocating reforms in every department and reductions in expenditures.

It is very possible that the Government desired to get him out of the country, at any rate he was appointed Iraq diplomatic representative in London in March, 1927. He had held this position slightly less than a year when he was recalled to Baghdad. The reason assigned for his recall at the time was that he had been injudicious in his interviews with representatives of the British press, as several articles appeared in which he was quoted as having most heartily condemned Great Britain's actions in Iraq. Without doubt that was at least part of the truth, but during a recent trial in which he as plaintiff accused a newspaper editor of libel it appears that there was more to it than that and that he had gotten into trouble with an English woman.

Muzahim Beg upon his return to Baghdad immediately launched other attacks against the Iraq Government and especially against the mandatory power. He did not confine his activities to Iraq but on several occasions traveled to Syria and to Palestine where he endeavored to stir up the Opposition parties against the French and the British.

During the last two months of 1930 Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, was severely pressed by the Opposition and almost forced out of power; however, he finally

succeeded

succeeded in defeating the Opposition by drawing into his own party two of their chief leaders. One of these men was Muzahim Beg to whom Nuri Pasha gave the portfolio of Economics and Communications (formerly known as Communications and Works). Inasmuch as the Iraq Petroleum Company was at the time negotiating for a revision of their oil concession and since the Ministry of Economics and Communications handles all oil matters it was widely rumored that Muzahim Beg would now have the chance to obtain a second bribe from the Company. At the time he was inducted into his new office he said to me: "I was accused of having received a large gold pen for signing the Iraq Petroleum Company Convention and they are already asking me if I will not get a larger one for signing the Agreement." However, a few months later Muzahim Beg was transferred from the Ministry of Economics and Communications to the Ministry of Interior. At the time he announced to the newspapers that he had been shifted because he could not agree to the terms offered to the company by the Government, but it was rumored that he had attempted to hold up the Iraq Petroleum Company and that Nuri Pasha, learning of his actions, had taken away from him any chance of doing so. Whether there is any truth in this rumor cannot be stated; it appears not, for Nuri Pasha, when he went to Europe in June 1931, made him acting Prime Minister.

As acting Prime Minister and as the Minister of Interior he was compelled to handle a strike which was called in most of the large cities and towns of the country during July, 1931 as a protest against proposed municipal taxes. This strike, which soon developed into

a political manoeuvre rather than an economic protest was managed by the Opposition leaders. These leaders were particularly bitter against Muzahim Beg because he had deserted them and endeavored to cause him as much trouble as possible. Muzahim Beg played into their hands because he assumed a most dictatorial attitude, refused to listen to any advice and browbeat and swore at the municipal councilors. The strike was not settled until Nuri Pasha, who had been summoned from Europe, returned about the middle of the month. Muzahim Beg had lost a great deal of reputation during the strike and further increased his unpopularity by utilizing his power as Minister of Interior to remove from office the Mayor of Baghdad, a very popular man. Agitation against him became very strong; he was attacked in the newspapers and denounced before Parliament. Finally the President of the Chamber of Deputies, a friend of the ex-Mayor of Baghdad, and twelve of his followers resigned from the Government party as a protest against Muzahim Beg's being retained in the cabinet. Finally the cabinet was forced to resign and Nuri Pasha was called upon by King Faisal to form a new cabinet. In this cabinet Muzahim Beg was not included.

Muzahim Beg still retains his seat in the Chamber of Deputies but his power is gone for the present as the Opposition will have nothing to do with him and the leaders of the Government party, with the possible exception of Nuri Pasha, would prefer to see him out of their ranks. However, Muzahim Beg has undoubted ability as an orator and a fomenter of trouble. He is a wealthy man who does not need Government office and he has some power among

the

the tribes of the Muntafiq area. It has been rumored lately that the Opposition leaders have shown an inclination to forgive and forget and it is more than possible that he will again be included in their ranks at some future date. Whether Muzahim Beg will ever be able again to attain a prominent place in Government or Opposition circles cannot of course be foretold, but one thing seems certain and that is that he is too ambitious and too capable a man to be long suppressed and whether within the party or acting as a long agent he is a man who will have to be reckoned with.

File 844.
ARS/SKL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.

A true copy of
the signed original
sent SKL

File name Jamil Beg al Madfai Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 589 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post. Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Feb. 27, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name Madfai (Madfa'ee) Jamil
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title President of Chamber of Deputies

Position at present President of Chamber of Deputies
elected

Date appointed December, 1931 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party.

Birthplace Mosul, Iraq. Date of birth 1890

Residence Baghdad

Education Schools in Baghdad; Military College, Istanbul.

Reputation Excellent with Arabs; Personality affable and pleasing
very bad with British.

Influence Has great influence with the mob but is not popular with
the influential people.

Previous career Served with Arab forces during last years of war.

Conducted campaign against British in Iraq. Served as Mutassarif
(Governor) of many different districts of Iraq. Was appointed
Minister of Interior in Nuri Pasha's first cabinet. Now President
of Chamber of Deputies.

Attitude toward the United States Knows nothing about the United States.

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Anti-British.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married to Arab woman.

Children Has three very young children.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations none.

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Arab descent.

REMARKS (Including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



JAMIL BEG AL MADFAI.

Jamil Beg al Madfai was born in Mosul in 1890. He received his educational training in the schools of Mosul, in the military schools of Baghdad and in the Military College of Constantinople from which he graduated as an artillery officer. During his college career at Constantinople he was an active member of the Ahd, a secret committee working for the independence of the Arabs and at the outbreak of the Arab revolt in 1916, he deserted the Turkish army and joined the revolting forces. When Syria was occupied by the Arabs and an Arab Government was set up there he held some few posts in that Government but in 1918 he and some other young

Arab

Arab officers formed the project of driving the British army of occupation out of Iraq and of bringing the country under Arab domination. These irregulars, having armed and equipped themselves by looting caravans they encountered in the desert, opened their campaign by attacking the British garrison at Deir-Ez-Zor. Not having had much success in this initial attack they moved toward the east and Jamil Beg led the forces which attacked and captured Tell 'Affar subsequent to and during which attack several British officers were killed. After the capture of this place he operated in the vicinity of Mosul, destroyed the railroad line between Baghdad and Shergat and in other ways caused the British forces a great deal of trouble. For his work at Tell 'Affar, a British Court Martial condemned him to death and he fled to Transjordan where he was given the position of Director of Police. Later the British granted him amnesty and he immediately returned to Iraq. He had not been in the country any length of time until his organizing and executive abilities were recognized by the Government and for the next few years he served as Mutassarif of Muntafik, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Diyala and Baghdad. In each of these positions he gave the Government good service and while he was never very popular, due to his dominating personality, he was recognized as a strong and capable man. When Nuri Pasha formed his first Cabinet in March, 1930, he appointed Jamil Beg to the portfolio of the Interior. This was a position for which he was fitted as, while acting as Mutassarif, he had become familiar with practically all of Iraq and understood the peculiar problems which confronted officials

officials in the various sections of the country. During the two or three months prior to October, 1930, Cabinet members were chiefly engaged in preparing for the elections at which time members of the new Parliament were to be chosen. This preliminary election work is always chiefly in the hands of the Minister of Interior and as "steam roller tactics" are employed by the Government in power during the elections the Minister of Interior is supposed to utilize his position and influence to see that only those are elected who can be depended upon to support the Government. It was rumored at the time that Jamil Beg was not following out his instructions to the letter and by his tactics was permitting the Opposition too much leeway in certain sections of the country. It is very probable that this rumor was based on fact as Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, who had been in Europe all the summer months, immediately transferred Jamil Beg from the Ministry of Interior to the Ministry of Finance upon his return to the country early in September. The elections were carried through as scheduled, being held in the north of the country on October 20th, in the central part of the country on October 22nd and in the southern part of the country on October 24th. When the results of the first day's election were learned in Baghdad Jamil Beg al Madfai, Jamil Beg Baban, Minister of Justice, and Jamil Beg al Rawi, Minister of Defence, immediately tendered their resignations from the Cabinet. According to reports current at the time these officials had become disgruntled upon learning that certain of their candidates for membership in the Chamber of

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of Deputies had been defeated, understanding that the only reason for such defeat was lack of Government support. Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, managed in some way to smooth over this difficulty and the three Ministers withdrew their resignations. After the elections were over Jamil Beg was again given the Ministry of Interior, but shortly resigned this post to be elected President of the Chamber of Deputies.

While Nuri Pasha, the Prime Minister, was absent in Europe during July, 1931, quite serious strikes occurred in many of the chief towns and cities of the country. At the time Muzahim Beg al Pachachi occupied the portfolio of the Interior and was acting as Prime Minister. This man is a dominating and arrogant character who handled the strike as seemed best to himself without accepting any advice. Jamil Beg did not consider Muzahim Beg al Pachachi's policy toward the strikers a correct one and criticized him severely and openly. Later on Muzahim Beg, acting in what is said to have been a very unconstitutional manner, discharged the Mayor of Baghdad from his office alleging that he had not cooperated with him during the strike. This further enraged Jamil Beg, as the Mayor and he are very close friends. The rift between the Minister of Interior and Jamil Beg gradually grew wider and finally just before the assembly of Parliament on November 1, 1931, Jamil Beg and twelve of his supporters resigned from the Ahd or Government party, giving as their reason the Prime Minister's refusal to agree to their demands that Muzahim Beg al Pachachi should be compelled to resign from the Council of Ministers. This created a great disturbance in Government circles and

and Ja'far Pasha al Askeri was hastily summoned from London to be the Government candidate for the presidency of the Chamber of Deputies. He was opposed by Jamil Beg who was given 23 votes, a surprising number, considering Ja'far Pasha's popularity and the fact that all Government support was behind him. Prior to this however, Nuri Pasha's Cabinet had resigned against the wishes of the Prime Minister who supported Muzahim Beg al Pachachi. King Faisal immediately called upon Nuri Pasha to form another Cabinet in which new Cabinet neither Muzahim Beg al Pachachi, because of the strike trouble, Dr. Abdullah Beg Damluji, the Foreign Minister who was disliked extremely by his Majesty, nor Jamil Beg al Rawi, Minister of Defence who was disliked by Nuri Pasha, were included.

Gradually, friends of the prime Minister who were also friends of Jamil Beg managed to smooth over the existing difficulties and a few weeks after Parliament had assembled Ja'far Pasha resigned his position as President of the Chamber of Deputies to assume the portfolio of the Foreign Office in the Council of Ministers and Jamil Beg was again elected to that position which he still holds (February 1932).

Jamil Beg has the reputation of being a hard worker and a fighter. He is extremely disliked by the British who accuse him of having treacherously killed certain of the British officers in the operations around Mosul which are mentioned in previous paragraphs. He is not liked by the prime Minister nor his chief supporters because of his refusal to follow out orders and the constant troubles he has caused the party. His popularity with

with the people is mainly the result of the campaign he waged against the British in the northern sections of the country as he is looked upon as one of the national heroes. He is a short, stocky man who takes no recreation of any kind. He does not engage in sports, he does not play cards, he is very seldom seen at social affairs and he does not entertain. He speaks only a smattering of French but can speak no other foreign language. He used to be associated quite closely with Yasin Pasha al Hashimi, the chief of the opposition leaders and when he was first appointed to a Cabinet position was considered to be Yasin Pasha's man and his appointment to be a sop to that leader. It is probable that as long as Huri Pasha or Ja'far Pasha control the Government party Jamil Beg will not be permitted to obtain any great amount of power. But in the event that Yasin Pasha is called upon to form a Cabinet, a thing which may occur in the near future, Jamil Beg probably will openly join that leader and may become a powerful figure in the Government of the country.

File No. 844
AKS/jnc.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris, France.

AKS

File name Rustum Beg Haidar Nationality Iraqi (naturalized)
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 180 of August 7, 1928*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad Date of preparation February 28, 1932 Prepared by L. K. Sloan

Family name Haidar Rustum
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Finance; Acting Prime Minister

Position Minister of Finance

Date appointed November 1930 Party affiliations Government (Ahd) Party

Birthplace Mirja'youn, Lebanon Date of birth 1889

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary and secondary schools of Beirut; the Sorbonne, Paris.

Reputation Excellent Personality Pleasant

Influence Very powerful at the Palace

Previous career School teacher in the Lebanon. Attached himself to

Sherifian family during Arab revolt. Became secretary and advisor

of Emir Faisal. Followed him to Iraq. Became his secretary when

he became King in 1921. Remained in that position until appointed

Minister of Finance in November, 1930. Still holds that portfolio.

Attitude toward the United States friendly

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations His attitude toward any country will depend

upon his idea of Iraq's interests.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage not married

Children

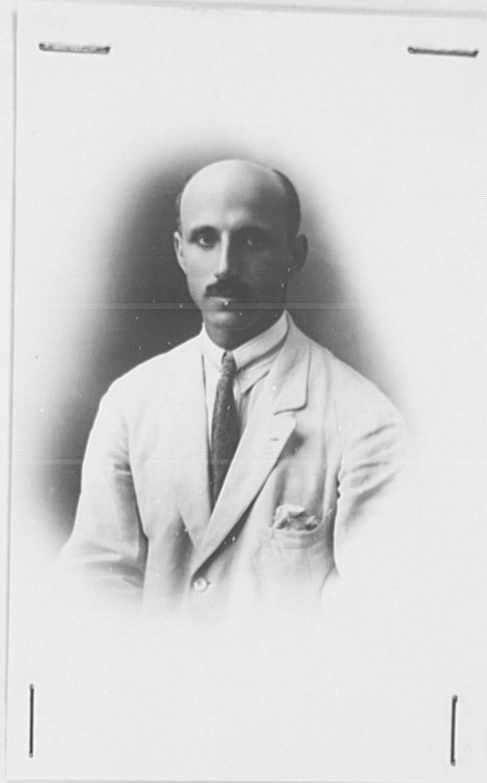
Religion Shiah Moslem Recreations Work and contract bridge.

Clubs Iraqi Club.

Lineage Syrian Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



RUSTUM BEG HAIDAR.

Rustum Beg Haidar was born at Mirja'youn, Lebanon, in 1889. He received his education in the local schools of Beirut and later became a teacher in the Government schools of that city. His ability was soon recognized by the Turkish officials who arranged that he should take a course in political economy at the Sorbonne, Paris, at Government expenses. He graduated from that University and returned to Syria at the outbreak of the Arab revolt. He immediately joined the revolting forces, attached himself to the Sherifian family and soon became one of Emir Faisal's secretaries. He followed Emir Faisal throughout

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the war, accompanied him to Damascus and when he was driven from that throne followed him to Baghdad.

When Emir Faisal became King of Iraq he immediately appointed Rustum Bag Haidar as his official secretary. He remained in that position until November, 1930, when he was made a Senator by Royal Irada and given the portfolio of Finance in Nuri Pasha's cabinet. He was reassigned to that position in Nuri Pasha's second cabinet.

Rustum Beg, as Private Secretary was a powerful man in the Government of the country, as King Faisal recognized his ability, took him with him on every trip he made to surrounding countries or Europe, had him present at all important interviews and depended upon his advice in all important matters. It is understood that he still acts as King Faisal's adviser. During the negotiations between Government and the Iraq Petroleum Company for a revision of the convention covering oil concessions in the country Rustum Beg took a very prominent and active part. I have been informed that the annual payment of £400,000 made by the Company to the Government was due in great part to his insistence, and that all matters concerning taxation of all kinds which are noted in the agreement were the result of his work.

The public as a whole did not approve of his appointment to the position of Minister of Finance as they considered him an outsider and for some months after his assumption of the duties of his office many petitions were presented to the Palace asking for his removal. However, as time went on the public found that he was fighting for the country at least as hard if not harder than

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the majority of Ministers and public attitude toward him has changed. He is now recognized as a very hard worker, a very capable man, an able and clever speaker and at the present time rumors can be heard to the effect that in the event Nuri Pasha is compelled to resign, Rustum Beg may be called upon to form a new Cabinet.

Rustum Beg works so hard and so continuously that he has ruined his health and I have heard the opinion expressed in the Palace that he will be soon compelled to give up his portfolio and will probably return to his former position as Secretary to His Majesty.

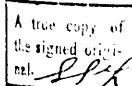
Rustum Beg engages in no sports, his only recreations seem to be work and contract bridge. He is a calm, even tempered and affable man and while he does not make friends readily is very popular with those who know him. He speaks English and French fluently and without an accent.

As long as King Faisal remains on the throne of Iraq, Rustum Beg Haidar will have great influence in the country but it is probable that that influence will be gained in his capacity as an adviser to the King rather than through any public office.

File 844.
AKS/SKL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Abdul Hussein al Chalabi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 580 of August 7, 1928*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad Date of preparation Feb. 27, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name Chalabi Abdul Hussein
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Education.

Position Minister of Education.

Date appointed March, 1930 Party affiliations Government (Abd) party.

Birthplace Kadhmain, Iraq Date of birth 1887

Residence Baghdad

Education In Shiah (religious) schools.

Reputation Not favorable Personality Weak

Influence None

Previous career Inherited some money and engaged in business prior to and during the war. was moderately successful. Since the Shiah sect must be recognized in the Cabinet, he has served for the last few years as the Minister of Education.

Attitude toward the United States He has few ideas about foreign nations.

Service in the United States None.

Attitude toward other nations His attitude toward foreign nations will depend upon the attitude of his colleagues.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a Shiah Moslem.

Children Some girls (His son died a year ago).

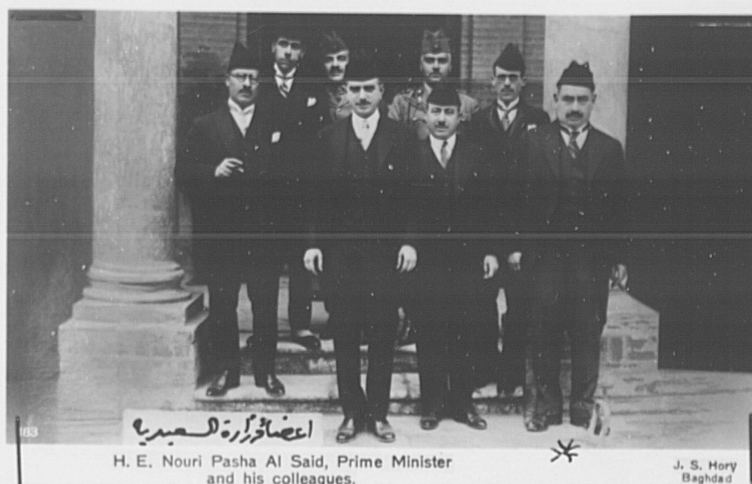
Religion Shiah Moslem Recreations None.

Clubs Iraqi Club.

Lineage Pure Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



ABDUL HUSSEIN AL CHELABI

Abdul Hussein al Chelabi was born at Kadhimain near Baghdad in 1887. He is a Shiah Moslem and members of this sect pay little attention to education other than that which can be obtained from the Koran. Abdul Hussein received all the education he has obtained from religious teachers at his birth place. He is reputed to be a man of little or no learning but he has held the position of Minister of Education in several Cabinets.

In 1925 he was given the portfolio of Minister of Education in the Cabinet of Yasin Pasha al Hashimi. He was given the same portfolio in the Cabinet of Abdul Muhsin Beg al Sa'dun in that same year. In

1927 he was appointed as Acting Minister of Irrigation and Agriculture. In 1929 he was given the portfolio of Minister of Education in Sir Abdul Muhsin Beg's second Cabinet. He held the same office in the Cabinet which followed, Naji Pasha al Suwaidi's Cabinet, and he was given the same portfolio in Nuri Pasha's first and second (present) Cabinet.

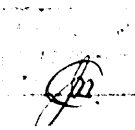
Due to the fact that the Shiah Moslems in Iraq are numerically more powerful than the Sunni Moslems, they must be recognized in the Cabinet and during the last few years Abdul Hussein al Chelabi has been selected by the various governments in power as the Shiah representative. He is the "yes" man of the Cabinet, having very few ideas of his own and being content to follow instructions. The Shiahs recognize the fact and he has very little if any power as a representative of that sect. However, due to his willingness to accept orders he will very probably be continued in his office and will be appointed to a Cabinet position for some years to come.

Abdul Hussein has never posed for a photograph except in a group. The attached photograph of Nuri Pasha and some of his Cabinet Ministers is the only picture of Abdul Hussein which it is possible to procure. In this picture he is to the extreme right of the front rank and his photograph is indicated by an asterisk.

File No. 844
AKS/jnc.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Ali ibn el Hussein al Hashimi Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 580 of August 7, 1926*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post. Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 2, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name al Hashimi Ali ibn el Hussein
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title King of the Hejaz

Position Acts as Regent of Iraq in absence of King Faisal

Date appointed - Party affiliations Government Party

Birthplace Hejaz Date of birth 1880 (?)

Residence Baghdad

Education Received his education from Turkish tutors in Hejaz and later in Istanbul.

Reputation Personal reputation good; Personality Very pleasing; a kind man as administrator not so good.

Influence At present mainly dependent upon backing of His Majesty King Faisal.

Previous career Assisted his father, King Hussein of Hejaz. Upon outbreak of Arab revolt in 1916 was made Commander-in-Chief of Arab forces. Upon abdication of King Hussein in 1925 he became King of Hejaz but was driven out by King Ibn Saud of the Najd and came to Baghdad to live.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Has no animosity against any foreign nation. Very friendly with the French at present.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a Turkish woman.

Children Has one son (about 20 years old) and several daughters.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations none

Clubs none

Lineage Purest Arab lineage; descendant of the Prophet.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



ALI IBN EL HUSSEIN AL HASHIMI.

Ex-King Ali, the eldest son of the late ex-King Hussein of the Hejaz, is a most charming person who attracts those who meet him by his kindness, courtesy and hospitality. The blood of generations of a princely and powerful family is plainly evident in his manner and his bearing, but he has not inherited from those ancestors much of the strength of character which permitted them to maintain their position. Certainly he has not shown himself to be as determined or as strong a man as his younger brother, King Faisal.

During the summer of 1931, it was reported that ex-King Ali had strong hopes of being placed upon the throne

of Syria

of Syria and I was informed by a reputable resident of Baghdad that ex-King Ali had stated to him that the French had encouraged him in this hope. However, if that was the case, the French soon gave up the project or at least became less desirous of bringing it to pass. It is possible that in the meantime they had heard from the Syrians as to their reaction to the proposal. While I was in Egypt during the summer of 1931, I talked over the matter with Emir Adel Arslan, a man who exerts a powerful influence in Syria and is a political refugee owing to his complicity in the Druse rebellion. Emir Adel Arslan told me that while the French officially denied any intention of placing ex-King Ali on the Syrian throne, there was evidently some truth in the rumors, but added that such a project would never receive the assent of prominent Syrians as indicated in their letters to him. He further stated that he knew ex-King Ali well, that he had every respect for him, admitted that he had a very charming personality and had great affection for him as a man, but could never consent to see him on the Syrian throne as he was entirely too weak to control the turbulent elements of that country.

Later in the year there were persistent rumors to the effect that ex-King Ali had been shelved in favor of his brother, King Faisal who would reign as sovereign over both Iraq and Syria. There were also rumors to the effect that the two brothers were not at all good friends owing to ex-King Ali's belief that King Faisal had worked against him. These rumors were seemingly substantiated by ex-King Ali's sudden departure for Transjordan and

newspaper

newspaper reports to the effect that he would visit his brother the Emir for a year. However, ex-King Ali returned within a few weeks, owing, according to my informants, to the fact that King Faisal had written him that there was little prospect of either of them gaining the Syrian throne and that for their own future prospects it were better that they work together.

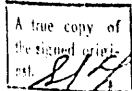
King Faisal seems to have a great affection and respect for his elder brother, and leaves him as Regent of the country during his rather numerous absences. While King Faisal rules in Iraq ex-King Ali will be a power in the country for his wishes will be respected whenever possible.

Ex-King Ali speaks French and Turkish fluently, but speaks no other foreign language. He has one son who is about 20 years of age. The son does not have the charming personality of his father and seems to be a much weaker character.

File No. 844.
AKS/SKL.

COPY TO:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Rashid Ali Beg Gailani
(Best known name only)

Nationality Iraqi

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NOTE.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 180* of August 7, 1936, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 2, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Gailani (Surname) Rashid Ali (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Interior; President of Chamber of Deputies

Position At present has no official position. One of Chief Opposition leaders.

Date appointed - Party affiliations Opposition

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq. Date of birth 1882

Residence Baghdad.

Education Primary & secondary schools of Baghdad; Law College of Istanbul

Reputation Excellent Personality Affable, rather judicial type

Influence Little at present; will be a power when Opposition supplants present Government.

Previous career Private law practice in Baghdad. Excellent reputation as a well-informed attorney. Has served as Judge in Court of Appeals, Minister of Justice, Minister of Interior and has been elected twice as President of Chamber of Deputies.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Has no decided preference for nor animosity to any foreign nation.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married his cousin, a woman of pure Arab blood.

Children Has two or three small children.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations none

Clubs Iraqi Club

Lineage Pure Arab stock of some importance.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



RASHID ALI BEG GAILANI.

Rashid Ali Beg Gailani was born in Baghdad in 1882. He was educated in the elementary and secondary schools of Baghdad and in the Law College of Constantinople. After graduation from the Law College he returned to Baghdad and began the practice of law, gaining the reputation of being one of the best informed attorneys in the country. When the civil Government was set up in Baghdad in 1921 he was appointed a Judge of the Iraq Court of Appeals and served in that capacity until 1924 when he was made Minister of Justice.

The Cabinet in which he served was busily engaged at

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the time in negotiations with the company then known as the Turkish Petroleum Company, now called the Iraq Petroleum Company, which was seeking an oil concession. Rashid Ali was not at all satisfied with the terms which the Government was prepared to accept and consequently when the convention was signed on March 14, 1925, he immediately resigned as a protest against such action. His resignation appealed to the public as an act of patriotism and consequently when he ran in Baghdad for membership in the Chamber of Deputies he was elected and shortly after the new Parliament was assembled was elected President of that Chamber.

Rashid Ali Gailani is not an even tempered man nor one who declines a fight when provocation is offered. Consequently, when during May 1926 the then Minister of Finance presented a draft of a law before the Chamber of Deputies which did not meet with his approval, he engaged in a wordy dispute with that official which soon became violent and which created a scandal in Government circles. As a result, he resigned the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies, but when Parliament again assembled in the fall was immediately re-elected. He again resigned this office in November, 1927 to accept the portfolio of Minister of Interior in Ja'far Pasha's Cabinet and continued in this office when Ja'far Pasha's Cabinet fell and Yasin Pasha formed his second Cabinet. He resigned from this Cabinet as a protest against the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 1927 which treaty, by the way, was never ratified. During 1928, 1929 and 1930 Rashid Ali

Gailani

Gailani was a member of the Chamber of Deputies but resigned from that body in February, 1931 together with Yasin Pasha al Hashidi and other Opposition leaders as a protest against alleged "steam-roller" tactics of the Government.

As can be seen, Rashid Ali Gailani has been an important personage in the Iraq Government since its formation. He is a forceful and eloquent speaker who, contrary to the habit of most Arab orators, confines himself to an exposition of facts and indulges in few flights of oratory. After each one of his resignations from the Cabinet he occupied himself most assiduously in criticizing the Government and is recognized as being one of the most powerful of the present Opposition leaders. Without doubt when the Opposition again comes into power Rashid Ali Gailani will be given every chance to influence Government action. At the present time he has no following and having lost most of his money has little opportunity to create a following.

File No. 844
AKS/jno.

Copy to:

A. I. C., Paris.

File name Ali-Jawdat Beg Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 880 of August 7, 1928*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 3, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Jawdat Ali
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Finance

Position One of the chief leaders of opposition to present Government.

Date appointed - Party affiliations Opposition

Birthplace Mosul, Iraq Date of birth 1886

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Secondary schools of Baghdad; Military College, Istanbul.

Reputation Good Personality Affable and pleasing.

Influence Does not have a large following, but will be carried along by Yasin Pasha al Hashimi.

Previous career Served in Turkish army until Arab revolt. Was with Arab forces in the Hejaz during remainder of the war. With Arab government of Damascus was Military governor of Aleppo and later Government representative at Beirut. Came to Iraq when King Faisal ascended the throne. Served as Mutassarif (Governor) of several districts, as Minister of Interior in fourth Cabinet, as Minister of Finance in twelfth Cabinet.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Anti-British, probably more from political than for other reasons.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a Syrian Arab woman

Children One or two very small children.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Tennis, riding.

Clubs Iraqi

Lineage Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum attached.



ALI JAWDAT BEG.

Ali Jawdat Beg was born in Mosul in 1886. He received his elementary education in the schools of that town but his family was neither rich enough to pay for further education in Baghdad, nor influential enough to have him educated at Government expense. For some time he remained at Mosul with nothing to do, but finally in some manner he obtained the means of completing his secondary education at Baghdad where he entered the military school. There he did good work, and Turkish officials managed to have him sent to the Military College at Istanbul at Government expense.

During

During his college course he joined the secret society of young Arabs who were interested in freeing Arab lands from Turkish domination and took an active part in that work. After graduation he was assigned to the Turkish army at Baghdad, but was shortly transferred to the Thirty-Fifth Regiment, then stationed at Mosul. In both these places he acted as liason officer between branches of the secret society for Arab independence which had been formed in Iraq and the headquarters of the society in Istanbul.

When the Arabs revolted in 1916 he immediately deserted the Turkish army and hastened to the Hejaz. In the Arab army he held various posts and was commanding the Camel Corps in the last battle between the Turks and the Arabs. He then was appointed Military Governor of Aleppo, shortly afterwards Civil and Military Governor of "Al Buqa", and later representative of the Arab Government at Beirut.

He resigned this last post to join some other young Arab officers who had formed the project of driving the British out of Iraq. With them he attacked Deir-ez-Zor and then moving to the west harassed the British forces stationed in Mosul and vicinity. However, this movement met with little success and Ali Jawdat Beg together with his comrades fled the country. When King Faisal ascended the throne of Iraq and amnesty was proclaimed Ali Jawdat Beg returned to the country and was immediately appointed Mutassarif of Hillah. He then served as Mutassarif of Kerbela, Mutassarif of Muntafiq, Minister of Interior in Iraq's Fourth Cabinet, Mutassarif of Diyala Liwa, Mutassarif of Basrah Liwa,

and

During his college course he was a member of the Young Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League.

When the Arab League was founded in 1945, he was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League.

He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League. He was also a member of the Arab League and was one of the founders of the Arab League.

and Director General of the Ministry of Interior. In all these positions he acquitted himself well and when Nuri Pasha al Said was called upon to form a Cabinet during March, 1930, he gave to Ali Jawdat Beg the portfolio of the Ministry of Finance.

The new Minister of Finance had seemingly had little preparation in life for this position and the policy he announced of strict retrenchment was most certainly not a new one. However, it was felt at the time that he had been chosen for a Cabinet post mainly because of his loyalty to the Arab cause and to King Faisal. It was soon rumored, however, that while loyal enough to the King, he was a follower of Yassin Pasha al Hashimi, the Opposition leader, rather than of Nuri Pasha al Said, the Prime Minister. During the summer of 1930 the Opposition attacked the Government vigorously on the question of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty whose terms had been published during July. Ali Jawdat Beg was careful not to mix in the fight, and managed to preserve a neutral position until the return of Nuri Pasha al Said from Europe in September. The Prime Minister immediately took up the fight against the Opposition and matters became very hectic. It was freely prophesied that Yassin Pasha al Hashimi would be too strong for the Prime Minister and that he would be forced out of office in the near future, and Yassin Pasha would be called upon to form a new Cabinet. At this stage of the game Ali Jawdat Beg resigned from the Ministry. The explanation he gave to the public to account for his action was that Nuri Pasha al Said had not taken the Council

of

Prior to the formation of Nuri Pasha's Cabinet, it had been customary for each and every Cabinet to resign after passing some important legislation through Parliament. It was widely rumored that Nuri Pasha would be forced out of office prior to the elections which were to take place in October, or would be forced out soon after Parliament assembled. Ali Jawdat Beg had wanted some assurance from Nuri Pasha as to his chances of retaining office or some assurance that Nuri Pasha, if forced out, would look after him and see that a Government position was granted him. Nuri Pasha refused him such assurance; hence the resignation.

Ali Jawdat Beg, as soon as he left office, joined the ranks of the Opposition and became one of their leaders, ably assisting Yassin Pasha in his attacks on the Government and in his moves to unite to his party the disaffected Shiah tribes. Judging from these actions it appears possible that his resignation was a political move dictated by Yassin Pasha in the hope that it would so embarrass the Government as to assist in its speedy overthrow. If that was the case, Opposition hopes proved unfounded as Nuri Pasha elected the Parliament he wanted elected and the Opposition could do nothing. This became plainly evident

when

when in January two of the Opposition leaders, Muzahim Beg Pachachi and Taufik Beg al Suwaidi deserted the Opposition and joined the Government party. A few weeks later the chief Opposition leaders, among them Ali Jawdat Beg, resigned their seats in the Chamber of Deputies as a protest against the alleged "Steam roller" tactics of the Government, and since that date Ali Jawdat Beg has not been before the public to any great extent.

If and when the present Opposition take control (in the opinion of many well-informed people, such a shift will probably take place after Iraq becomes a member state of the League of Nations) Ali Jawdat Beg, who has been Yassin Pasha's right hand man, will again become powerful. That he is planning to enter the political fight again and more vigorously seems evident from his recent application to be permitted to establish and print a daily newspaper.

File 844.
AKS/SKL.

COPY TO:

E. I. C., Paris.

A true copy of
the signed original
no. 5112.

File name Yusif Beg al Ghanimah Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 529 of August 7, 1925*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 3, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Ghanimah Yusif
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Finance

Position At present hold no official position

Date appointed - Party affiliations Opposition (moderate) to Government.

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1885

Residence Baghdad

Education Primary and secondary schools of Baghdad

Reputation Very good Personality Pleasant

Influence Being a Christian, he has little political influence.

Previous career Prior to and sometime after the war he was a merchant;

later he became a newspaper editor. Was elected member of Chamber

of Deputies. Minister of Finance in Sir Abdul Muhsin's Cabinet

in 1927; Minister of Finance in Taufik Beg al Suwaidi's Cabinet

in 1929.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Has no animosity toward any foreign nation;

pro-British.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married his cousin

Children Three sons, eldest ten; two daughters.

Religion Christian Recreations none.

Clubs none

Lineage Arab Christian family.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

Has obtained highest position of any Christian in Iraq

Government. See attached memorandum.



YUSIF BEG AL GHANIMAH

Yusif Beg Ghanimah is a descendant of one of the Arab Christian families which has managed to exist in Mesopotamia for a good many centuries. He received the education which he could receive in the primary Christian schools and the secondary Jewish schools of Baghdad and then engaged in the mercantile business, obtaining some success prior to the war but being greatly curtailed in his business operations by the war. Shortly after the end of the war, when he saw that the country would have a Government of its own, he
founded

founded a newspaper with the intention of entering into the political life of the country as a representative of the Christians of Baghdad. In this attempt he was successful as he was elected a member of the Constituent Assembly of Iraq. Later he was elected as a member of the Chamber of Deputies representing the Christians of Baghdad and due to his financial knowledge was assigned to the finance committee of that body. He later served as Minister of Finance in the Cabinet of Sir Abdul Muhsin Sadun in 1927; he was appointed one of the three delegates to negotiate the revision of the financial and military agreement contained in the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 1922; he was appointed Minister of Finance in the Cabinet of Taufik Beg al Suwaidi which was formed in April, 1928 and upon the resignation of that Cabinet about six months later retired to private life.

Yusif Beg Ghanimah is the only Christian who has been appointed to a cabinet position since the formation of the Government of Iraq. He is regarded as a conservative man who understands the finance problems of the country and who conducted the duties of his ministerial office in a very acceptable manner. I have been informed by a reliable source of information that King Faisal has on one occasion at least during the last year requested him to take the portfolio of the Ministry of Finance. Yusif Beg declined the honor for two reasons: first, he believed that the duties of the office under present conditions and under the present regime would be very onerous and would subject him to great and continuous embarrassment and criticisms; in the second place, while he has never in the past been

an

an extreme opponent of the Government he is rapidly leaning towards the Opposition party lead by Yassin Pasha al Hashimi and will in all probability join their ranks.

It is very probable that if Yusif Beg Ghanimah perseveres in his present attitude he will attain some prominence among the Opposition leaders, if only for the reason that Yassin Pasha al Hashimi is a clever politician, is working very hard to show that within the ranks of the Opposition are gathered all except the small number of Sunni politicians who are in power and their followers and would doubtless welcome in his ranks such a prominent representative of the Christians of Baghdad.

File No. 844.
AKS/SKL,

COPY TO:

E. I. O., Paris.

File name Faisal ibn al Hussein al Hashimi Nationality Iraqi (naturalized)
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 520 of August 7, 1920*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 5, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name Al Hashimi Faisal ibn al Hussein
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title King of Iraq

Position King of Iraq

Date appointed August 23, 1921 Party affiliations -

Birthplace Taif, near Mecca Date of birth 1883

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Private tutors in Istanbul

Reputation Excellent Personality pleasing

Influence predominate at present

Previous career Returned from Istanbul to the Hijaz in 1909. Served in two campaigns against revolting subjects of his father, King Hussein. Served in Arab revolt. Occupied Syria with his forces. Was King of Arab government of Syria for 4 months. Driven out by French. Has been King in Iraq since 1921.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Friendly toward all nations. Pro-British, pro-French, pro-Italian and pro-Turk.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Has one wife only; married his cousin.

Children One son, 18 years old; 3 daughters.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Shooting; bridge.

Clubs No clubs

Lineage Pure Arab.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



KING FAISAL FIRST OF IRAQ.

King Faisal the First of Iraq is the third son of the late ex-King Hussein of Hejaz. He traces his family, according to his biography published in Baghdad, back to a daughter of Mohammed and even further, as follows: Faisal ibn (son of) Hussein, ibn Ali, ibn Mohammed, ibn Abdul Ain, ibn 'Own, ibn Muhsein, ibn Abdullah, ibn Hussein, ibn Abdullah ibn Hassan, ibn Mohammed Abi Naim al Asghar, ibn Barakat al Thani (Barakat the Second), ibn Mohammed ibn Barakat al Awal (Barakat the First), ibn al Hassan al Thani (Hassan the Second), ibn 'Ajlan, ibn Rumaitha, ibn Abi Naim al Akbar, ibn al Hassan al Awal (Hassan the First), ibn Ali,

ibn Qatadat, ibn Idris, ibn Mata'im, ibn Abul Kerim, ibn Issa, ibn Hussein, ibn Sulaiman, ibn Ali, ibn Abdullah, ibn Mohammed al Thayer, ibn Mousa al Thani (Mousa the Second), ibn Abdullah, ibn Mousa al Joun, ibn Abdullah al Mahedh, ibn Hassan al Muthni, ibn al Hassan al Subit, ibn al Iman Ali, ibn Abi Talib (the son-in-law of the Prophet) who claimed to be a direct descendant of the Prophet Abraham.

He was born in Taif, a summer resort near Mecca, in the year 1883, or according to the Arabian calendar in the Year of the Hejira 1301. He lived among the tribes until he was seven years of age and was then sent to Istanbul where he was instructed by private tutors. In 1909, when he was twenty-six years of age he returned to the Hejaz with his father. In 1911 he served as an assistant to his elder brother Abdullah in a campaign against the rebels in Assir. Again in 1913 he was sent to Assir, but this time as Commander-in-Chief, to fight the rebels there who were assisted by the Italians. He defeated the rebels and made peace with the Italians. Following this campaign he was sent to Istanbul as the representative of Jeddah and remained in that city until the outbreak of the war in 1914, and was then delegated by his father, King Hussein, to study the situation and especially the attitude of the Turks toward the Arabs. In 1915 he was recalled to Jeddah by King Hussein but was immediately sent to Damascus to confer with Djamel Pasha, Turkish leader, in an effort to procure better treatment for the Arabs, as the Turks were handling them in a severe manner. In this mission

he was

he was unsuccessful, as the Turks continued their repressive measures. Upon his return to Hejaz, King Hussein declared the independence of the Arabs and the revolt against the Turkish power was initiated. In the Arab army which was then formed King Faisal's eldest brother, Ali, was Commander-in-Chief, and he served as a Staff officer. Later he was given command of an Arab army which was sent to the north to prevent any contemplated attack by the Turks on Mecca. He succeeded in his mission and effectually destroyed all communications between Damascus and Mecca. In 1918 he commanded the right wing of General Allenby's army, pursued the Turkish army from Palestine into Syria and rapidly seized Damascus, Homs, Hamat and Aleppo. After the Armistice he represented his father at the Peace Conference and it was in part due to his efforts that an American mission went to Syria to endeavor to discover the sort of government the inhabitants of that country desired.

The foregoing has been taken from the official biography of King Faisal which has been printed and circulated in Baghdad, because the statements contained therein have been investigated and are believed to be correct. The report concerning his short-lived Arabian government at Damascus, as printed in the official biography is scant and vague as can be seen from the following:

"Finally he returned to Damascus in January, 1920 and on March 8, 1920, the Syrian Assembly held a meeting and declared the independence of the country and elected King Faisal to the

throne

"throne. Due to the troubles of July, 1920 His Majesty sailed to Europe for the third time and stayed in London some five months fighting for the Arab cause, and then journeyed to Baghdad arriving there on June 29, 1921."

Without doubt the Department has very accurate information as to what occurred at Damascus which induced Emir Faisal to set up an Arab Government there. From information to be gained here from unofficial sources it appears that he soon discovered he had little chance of having his claim for the Syrian throne recognized by the European powers; that upon returning to Damascus he assembled his army leaders, asked them whether they could resist the French if that nation asserted its claims to Syrian territory by force of arms and, being assured that they could, had himself elected King of Syria. Within four months after he had taken this action the French defeated his army and drove him from the country.

After the Damascus disaster Emir Faisal journeyed to London and pleaded his cause with the British. He had arrived there at an opportune time for a serious revolt against British military occupation had taken place in Iraq and, according to information I have received in Baghdad, the British Foreign Office decided that the military occupation of the country must be put an end to; that a constitutional monarchy was the form of Government which could be best handled by the mandatory power; and that Emir Faisal should be made King of Iraq. Of course certain gestures were made to convince

convince the world at large and the people of Iraq themselves that this form of Government was not being forced upon the country. They sent into Iraq emissaries of Emir Faisal to organize propaganda work in his favor; they sent out their own men and went through a form of investigating the situation and the wishes of the people. When the stage had been properly set Emir Faisal set out from London for Basrah and was brought from Basrah to Baghdad in a special train, arriving in that city on June 29, 1921.

During the next few months Emir Faisal took every occasion to meet the people and spoke in schools, mosques, synagogues, and Christian churches. His main theme was that the people of Iraq had been governed by foreigners for some six centuries and had been oppressed and suppressed during all that time; he promised them that if they elected him their sovereign and gave him one year for every century of their oppression he would bring the country back to the position it had formerly occupied.

There is no doubt that King Faisal can, if he so pleases exert a powerful personal appeal, and his presence in Baghdad assisted materially in the vote which placed him on the throne. However, trustworthy Americans who were in the country at the time (and their statements are supported to an extent by remarks made to me from time to time by Britishers who were here during 1921) lead me to believe that the outcome of the voting was never in the least doubt, the only question being how great a majority would be given to Emir Faisal. I have heard also that certain officials whose districts did

not

not turn in a vote in the proportions desired, were requested to resign. It must be added in this connection, that the subsequent history of Iraq shows that one sect and one section never think alike on any subject, and that if the British had really tried to gain a true idea of the wishes of the people (who themselves are never quite certain of what they want), the result of any uninfluenced plebescite would have been a deadlock. The results of the so-called plebescite were overwhelmingly in favor of Emir Faisal and he was accordingly proclaimed King of Iraq on August 23, 1921.

King Faisal has now been on the throne of Iraq for about ten years and a half. I do not imagine that during any period of that time he has been really peaceful, contented or satisfied. In the first place Iraq is not a nation, but is a mixture of antagonistic religions, sects and nations confined within artificially created boundaries. The British Tommie rather adequately described conditions in the country when he referred to Iraq as "Messpot". There are in the north the Kurds, who were without doubt promised by the British during the period of war stress an autonomous kingdom, who still insist upon having such a kingdom and who have never yielded willingly to outside authority in the last few centuries. Side by side with the Kurds are the Assyrians, who also received British promises of protection and who look, or, it should be said, have looked to the British to provide them with guaranties for their protection and who have dreamed nebulous dreams of a kingdom of their own. Then, too, in the north are the Yezidis (so-called Devil Worshipers) who will never fit in with any established government

controlled

the people in the north of the country are
 controlled by Moslems as their remembrance of massacres
 engineered by Moslems are too vivid. In the north also
 are Jewish colonies which have been enslaved for cen-
 turies, and only recently have attained a semblance of
 freedom. It should be added that the Arab of the Mosul
 district considers himself to be of a much better strain
 than his co-religionists who live in the central section
 of the country, and yields to orders from Baghdad with
 reluctance. Furthermore, while Assyrian and Kurd are
 "quick on the trigger" and are prone to arbitrate matters
 personally without recourse to courts, it must also be
 understood that the Assyrians are divided into Protestant
 Assyrians (Nestorians) and Catholic Assyrians (Chaldeans)
 and that these two segments of the same people are just
 as prone to fight each other as to fight the Kurd or the
 Moslem.

In the south of the country are the Marsh Arab, the
 Ma'dan, who wield little or no influence, who are a
 people apart, and who pay to the Government their taxes
 only when they can be caught. In the south are the Shiah
 who are numerically more powerful than the Sunnis, but who
 were never permitted any share in the Government by the
 Turks and who are in the main ignorant, uncultured people
 having little or no knowledge of government except under
 tribal law. But it was the Shiah who were the initiators
 and main supporters of the revolt of 1920 which brought
 about the end of the military occupation. They claimed
 and still claim a share in the government of the country
 proportionate to their population, and failing to obtain
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The new attitude of the King was first brought forcibly to public attention when he called upon Nuri Pasha as Said in March, 1930 to form a new Cabinet, as it was said that he selected the men to be given portfolios and at the same time announced to the Opposition that he expected to keep the Cabinet then formed in power for three years, as frequent cabinet changes were not conducive to Government efficiency. During the next few months it was reported that he was the real Prime Minister, and that Nuri Pasha was acting only as his mouthpiece. During the summer of 1930 King Faisal took

a trip

Then, too, King Faisal was
head during the first year
of his reign who were
called "advisers", but were
the British High Commissioner
as the real ruler of the country
in his own hands.
policy with respect to the country
into power of the Labor Government
the High Commissioner, Sir Philip
of that year announced to the
British was prepared to propose
in the League of Nations and
that the British have been
to the League of Nations and
not an advisory and not
King Faisal has had a chance
to take his own hands and to take
the policy of his government
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as President, as President
The Government of Jordan
that he reported that he
and that he was
to the Government of

a trip to Europe and on the trip visited Italy and had
several conferences with Premier Mussolini. That states-
man seemed to have made a great impression upon him for
he is reported to have made the statement upon his return
to Iraq (this information was obtained from a former
Prime Minister) that Mussolini had saved Italy, and that
what Iraq needed was a man capable of carrying out a simi-
lar policy.

At the time of King Faisal's return preparations
were being made to hold elections for members of the new
Chamber of Deputies, and Opposition leaders were busily
engaged in conducting their campaigns in various sections
of the country and were causing Government a great deal
of worry. Certain Opposition leaders informed me that
King Faisal had called all of them to private conferences
at the Palace, had asked them to cooperate with the Gov-
ernment, and had threatened to ruin them politically un-
less they agreed to do so. It appeared that King Faisal
believed that he was the man to carry out the Mussolini
policy.

While the King has been compelled to modify the at-
titude he assumed in October, 1930, and has even offered
cabinet positions to several of the Opposition leaders
whom he threatened with political ruin, he has taken over
gradually more and more power. When any man or group of
men cause trouble and refuse to follow out Government
policy, King Faisal summons them to the Palace, holds con-
versations with them at which usually only his Secretary
is present and endeavors to bring them into line. He

often

often telephones to members of the Council of Ministers and informs them of the action they must take in specific cases, and it is said that he insists upon being consulted in even the most minor matters. Certain moves which he has made during the last few months seem to indicate a determination on his part to consolidate the reins of power within the Palace as soon as Iraq becomes a member state of the League.

It must not be understood that King Faisal is being allowed an absolutely free hand. The British High Commissioner still insists upon being consulted prior to the initiation of any important policy, and has on certain recent occasions vetoed plans already made. However, the High Commissioner is not interfering in governmental business as frequently as he used to do, and certain British commercial men have complained to me that they can get no protection from the Residency.

Certain speeches which the King has made during the last few months have indicated that he has no mean idea of his own power and ability. After his return from Europe in October, 1931, he gave a banquet to practically all the prominent Iraqis in Baghdad. At that dinner he made a speech in which he claimed for himself all credit for the progress which Iraq has made during the last nine years and informed his hearers that he was running the Government and that his policies would be carried out. He also stated that had the Syrians followed his advice they could now be looking forward to membership in the League. Since that time he has made references with

increasing

increasing frequency to "my Government" and "my policies". There seems to be little doubt that he considers himself capable of governing Syria as well as Iraq, and for a time at least was of the opinion that he would get the chance. It is reported in Baghdad that semi-official French newspapers derided his pretensions and called him an "amiable dreamer", but French policy with respect to Syria is not at all clear and while it is reported from Beirut that the French have no intention of placing either King Faisal or his eldest brother, ex-King Ali, on the Syrian throne, it appears that the French Charge d'Affaires in Iraq is still engaged in supporting the candidature of a member of the Hashimite family for the Syrian throne.

It is very doubtful whether any man occupying the throne of Iraq would be popular. An orator wields too great an influence with the unlettered mob, and there are too many political irons in the fire for any policy to be universally popular, nor for any man to receive the acclaims of the greater portion of the populace. An American once said to me in describing conditions in a certain republic: "Ninety percent of the people do not know what all this political agitation means; they do not stand to gain anything by a change in government, but a great portion of them can be induced to take up arms to support a revolt against the government. Of the remaining ten percent, half are politicians in power, and half are politicians trying to seize power". That is more or less the situation in Iraq at the present time. As long as King Faisal supports his present Prime

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Minister he will be unpopular with the politicians who cannot get on the government pay-roll; were he to dismiss the present Cabinet and let the Opposition come into power, he would find that he had changed one set of critics for another. While King Faisal has an attractive personality, he seemingly makes no appeal to the people. All the "enthusiasm" which government papers report as shown on his departures to or returns from Europe, or on his trips to various sections of the country, has been carefully worked up. He appears on occasion in his automobile on the streets of Baghdad, but, while his car is recognized and the curious may crane their necks to catch a sight of Majesty, that is all the interest displayed; no enthusiasm is shown, no sign of respect displayed. As a matter of fact he was openly and repeatedly insulted during a trip he took during the first months of 1931 to the "Holy Cities", even though he took with him several prominent Shiaks.

The remark is often heard that when British airplanes can no longer be utilized to suppress internal troubles the "sidara" (national headgear) will disappear from Iraq within three weeks due to revolts among the Kurds and the Shiaks. There is also an impression in certain quarters that the British would be very pleased to see King Faisal driven from the throne, as he has enlarged ideas of his abilities, has very definite policies mapped out with respect to neighboring countries and will not be amenable to suggestion once the country is freed from mandatory control.

File No. 844.
AKS/SKL.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.

File name Dr. Abdullah Beg al Damaluji Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 589 of August 7, 1929*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department. Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation March 11, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan,

Family name Damaluji (also spelled Damluji) Abdullah.
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister for Foreign Affairs in Iraq as well as the Kingdom of Hejaz and Nejd.

Position None at present.

Date appointed _____ Party affiliations Government party.

Birthplace Mosul, Iraq. Date of birth 1895

Residence Baghdad, Iraq.

Education Secondary Schools of Mosul; Medical Institute in Beirut.

Reputation See memorandum Personality See memorandum

Influence Not much at present.

Previous career Fled Iraq in 1914 to escape being arrested as agitator against Turks. Became physician to Bin Jalewy, Governor of Hassa; later physician to King Ibn Saud and finally his Minister for Foreign Affairs. Fled from Hejaz and came to Baghdad. Appointed Iraq's Consul General at Cairo and finally Iraq's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly in the main.

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations As his party chiefs dictate.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married an Arab woman of Mosul.

Children One son about seven years of age; two (?) small daughters.

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Bridge

Clubs Iraq Club.

Lineage Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



DR. ABDULLAH BEG AL DAMALUJI.

Dr. Abdullah Beg al Damaluji (Damluji) was born in Mosul, Iraq, in 1895. He was educated in the primary and secondary schools of Mosul and then attended a medical school at Beirut which is conducted by French priests. After graduation from this medical school he returned to Iraq and settled at Basrah. There he became involved in the affairs of a secret society working against the Turkish regime and the Turks determined to arrest him. He fled to the Arabic coast of the Persian Gulf and secured employment as the physician of Bin Jalewy, the Military Governor of Hassa, a district of the Kingdom of Nejd. He soon attracted the attention of King Ibn Saud and was appointed his family physician. He gradually gained the

confidence

confidence of this sovereign and in 1920 or 1921 was appointed Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Nejd, and later also of Hejaz. He held this position some five or six years during which time he represented the King of the Hejaz and Nejd on several commissions which tried to fix a definite boundary between Iraq and that country. Dr. Damaluji did not succeed very well in any of these missions, according to some well informed people, because he did not have the ability, according to others because he was more of an Iraqi than he was Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Hejaz and Nejd and was inclined to yield to Iraq in any matter concerning the two countries. It appears from the information that I have been able to obtain that King Ibn Saud gradually became convinced that his Foreign Minister was not being loyal to him and furthermore, had utilized his position to amass in one way or another a comfortable fortune. Whatever the reason may be, Dr. Damaluji finally decided that he had lost the confidence of the King and fearing, probably rightly so, the effect that this would have on his liberty if not on his life, fled the country in an airplane and later came to Baghdad. In Baghdad Dr. Damaluji haunted Government offices for years seeking some official position, but without success. However, when Nuri Pasha al Said formed his cabinet in March, 1930 Dr. Damaluji's political prospects became brighter as he and the Prime Minister had lived together in Basrah prior to the war, had been members of the same society and had fled the country at the same time in order to escape arrest. Within a few weeks the Prime Minister appointed him as Iraq's Consul General at Cairo. A few months

afterwards

and afterwards he was recalled to Baghdad and given the portfolio of Minister for Foreign Affairs. He held this position until Nuri Pasha's first cabinet resigned in November, 1931. Since that date Dr. Damaluji has not been able to obtain another government position, due, it is said, to the fact that King Faisal dislikes him. However, since he follows out to the minutest detail the orders of his political superiors it is possible that he may within the near future represent Iraq in some foreign post.

Dr. Damaluji is a suave individual with a most pleasant smile. He speaks French fluently and has just enough command of English to lead people to believe that he understands everything being said to him - which is far from the case. While I was in Bahrein during February, 1931 I investigated Dr. Damaluji's reputation in that island which he had visited many times while he was a physician of Bin Jalewy and of King Ibn Saud and while he was Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Hejaz and Nejd. I soon learned that residents of the Island who knew him well did not place much faith in him, believing him to be a rather slippery character. While he was Minister for Foreign Affairs in Iraq he gained the same reputation to an extent and he was also considered to be an inefficient and lazy man. Whether, as it is rumored, he lined his pockets with government gold while he was Foreign Minister for King Ibn Saud cannot, of course, be stated. However, he has purchased property in Baghdad, is building a fine home on this property and seems to have much more money at his disposal than he could have obtained

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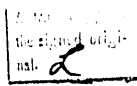
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 Minister for Foreign Affairs
 his position would have been a first
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 has not been able to obtain another
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 foreign post.

Dr. Demmouh is a brave individual
 and while he speaks French fluently
 command of English to lead people to
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 an influential and busy man. Whether
 he lived his pocket with Government
 Minister for King Ibn Saud
 stated. However, he has purchased property
 is building a house on this property
 that much more money is being spent

obtained from his salary as King Ibn Saud's Foreign
 Minister or from the practice of his profession.

File No. 844.
 AKS/SHL.

Copy to:
 E. I. C., Paris.



File name Abdul Aziz Beg al Mudhafer Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 120 of August 7, 1935*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 12, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Mudhafer (also spelled Mudhaffar), Abdul Aziz
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Director General of Administration of Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Position At present holds a very minor position

Date appointed --- Party affiliations Government Party

Birthplace Baghdad Date of birth 1897

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education In mission schools of Baghdad.

Reputation See memorandum Personality See memorandum

Influence None at present, except that which he gains as prospective son-in-law of a prominent politician.

Previous career Clerk in Municipal Council of Baghdad; clerk in Ministry of Interior; Mutassarif of Hillah; Director General of Administration in Ministry of Interior; Director General of Administration in Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Mutassarif of Mosul.

Attitude toward the United States As his policy dictates

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations He trims his sails to the prevailing political wind.

Personal intelligence:
Marriage Betrothed to the daughter of Naji Pasha al Suwaidi; a very prominent and powerful politician.

Children ---

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations none

Clubs Iraqi Club.

Lineage Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum



ABDUL AZIZ BEG AL MUDHAFAER.

Abdul Aziz Beg al Mudhafer (Mudhaffar) is 34 years of age. His family, while considered to be of pure Arab blood, have not been prominent in the business, social or political life of Baghdad and are said to be poor. Mudhafer attended certain mission schools in the city and was noted as a conscientious and brilliant student. He finished what education he received about the end of the war and at that time was able to speak, read, and write fluently in his own tongue, of course, and also in German and in English. His knowledge of these foreign languages procured for him the position of clerk in the

Municipal

Municipal Council of Baghdad. He continued his study of foreign languages and is now said to be able to converse fluently in seven. He also performed the duties of his office quite acceptably and within a few years was transferred to the Ministry of Interior. There he attracted the attention of Sir Kinnih Cornwallis, the British adviser attached to that Ministry, and through the influence of that official his abilities were recognized and he was rapidly promoted. Some few years ago, again through the influence of Sir Kinnih Cornwallis, he was promoted to be Mutassarif (Governor) of the Hillah district. He remained in that position only a short time and was then brought back to Baghdad and given the position of Director General of Administration in the Ministry of Interior, a position of great power. Early in 1931 he was transferred to the same position in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. During April, 1931 the police in the town of Sinjar, in Mosul Liwa, revolted against the Qaimaqam (the chief civil official of the town) and fired into his house for some hours. The investigation of this affair which was conducted by the British adviser to the Mutassarif of Mosul Liwa, assisted by a committee appointed by the Ministry of Interior, seemed to indicate that the Mutassarif of the Liwa, due to his laxity, was to a great extent responsible for this action of the police. He was removed and about the end of the month Mudhafer was given this position and proceeded to Mosul.

While occupying that office he made a trip into the territory of Shaikh Ahmad Barzan in order to confer with

that

a political

Mudhafer is a perky little man who assumes an appearance of great efficiency by his curt manner of handling cases brought before him. This curt manner is more often assumed when he is dealing with subordinates, and he is usually very suave and ingratiating when dealing with his superiors of those whose friendship or influence he desires to obtain. His salary has never been quite large enough to permit him to live in the style he has thought it necessary to maintain. He is said to be indebted heavily and shortly after the beginning of his trial his Marmon car was seized by the automobile dealers who had sold it to him on account of non-payment of instalments overdue. While it is commonly believed that the charge against him

of

of misappropriation of government funds was a true charge, it is thought that as soon as the public forget to an extent his recent trial, he will again be appointed to some high office. In the first place, although his ingratiating manner does not please the foreigners with whom he comes in contact, it has a great deal of effect upon Iraqi politicians; then, too, the man is a very hard worker and has undoubted ability along many lines; furthermore, his prospective father-in-law, Naji Pasha al Suwaidi, (a formal betrothal in Iraq has practically the same effect as the marriage, as far as relations with the prospective bride's family are concerned) is a politician who will undoubtedly again take a very active part in the politics of the country in the near future and he can be expected to protect and further the interests of Abdul Aziz Beg al Mudhafer when he is in a position to do so.

File No. 844.
AKS/skl.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.

[Handwritten mark]

File name Dr. Hanna Khaiyatt Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 620 of August 7, 1928*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 14, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Khaiyatt Hanna
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister (without portfolio) in Council of State (1920)

Position Director General of Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Date appointed November, 1931 Party affiliations Government Party

Birthplace Mosul Iraq Date of birth 1884

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education In school of Dominican fathers at Mosul; in medical school of Jesuits in Beirut.

Reputation See memorandum Personality See memorandum.

Influence Limited on account of his religion.

Previous career Practiced medicine in Mosul. Served in civil hospital

in Mosul after the war. Appointed Minister (without portfolio)

in Council of State in 1920; appointed Director of Health in 1922;

retained this position until appointed Director General of

administration of Ministry for Foreign Affairs in November, 1931.

Attitude toward the United States Friendly.

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Pro-British, pro-French; has no feeling of

antagonism toward any foreign nation.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married a Christian woman from Mosul. Beirut/

Children One son about 19, who is studying in Jesuit College at/

Religion Syrian Catholic Recreations none

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage Arab Christian.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum.



DR. HANNA KHAIIYATT.

Dr. Hanna Khaiyatt is a member of a Syrian Christian family which for some generations has lived in Mosul, Iraq, or its vicinity. The family is moderately wealthy and Dr. Khaiyatt and his two brothers, one of whom is an army doctor and the other a "Chor-Eveque" in the Syrian Catholic Church as well as a member of the Chamber of Deputies from the Mosul Liwa, were educated in Catholic Missions at Mosul and in Jesuit institutions in Beirut. Prior to the war Dr. Khaiyatt had established himself as a practicing physician in Mosul but during

the

the last days of the Turkish régime in the country gave up his practice to look after wounded soldiers. When the British troops occupied the Mosul district and the military government was set up there, Dr. Khaiyatt was given a position in the civil hospitals. In 1920 when the British decided that the military government of Iraq should be given up and a civil government instituted, the High Commissioner began the formation of such a government by appointing a Council of State. He desired to have in this Council representative men of the various religious sects and of the various districts of the country and so summoned various notables to whom he gave portfolios and some twenty assistants who were given the titles of Ministers but were not given portfolios; of these Dr. Khaiyatt was one.

This position brought him to the attention of the authorities, and, since by his good work in Mosul hospitals he had given proof of his abilities as a physician, he was appointed in 1922 the Director of Health. He held this position until November, 1931, conducting his office in an able and efficient manner and gaining the respect of all who came in contact with him. When Nuri Pasha al Said formed his second cabinet in November, 1931 he appointed Dr. Khaiyatt to his present position of Director General of Administration of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Khaiyatt is a tall man of rather striking appearance. While he pays little attention to social affairs he is perfectly at home in any surroundings

and

and is at ease at any time. He is a rather forceful speaker with a ready flow of words. He speaks English well and understands it better; his French is said to be Excellent. His political future is rather problematical for heretofore a Christian has had little opportunity to succeed along these lines in Iraq. That his abilities are too great to be overlooked is indicated by the fact that he is one of the two Christians of the country who has served on a cabinet and the only Christian who has held an important office for any length of time.

Dr. Khaiyatt assured me some months ago that he realized there was no political future for him in the country and that he had accepted his present post on the understanding that it would be the stepping-stone to a diplomatic post in some foreign country. I believe that he has received promises or at least has some sort of an understanding that when Iraq's finances permit the establishment of a Legation at Paris he will be made Iraq's Minister to that country.

File No. 844.
AKS/skl.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.

Form for Diplomats, Officials, Eminent Persons,
Journalists, etc.

File name Thabit Abdul Nour Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Committee Diplomatic Serial 880 of August 7, 1926, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and one for Department.
When sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Place Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 24, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Nour (Surname) Thabit Abdul (Given names)

Highest rank or title Member of Chamber of Deputies

Position Director of Oil Matters

Date appointed May, 1931 Party affiliations Supports the Government

Birthplace Mosul, Iraq Date of birth 1895 (?)

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education In Dominican mission schools of Mosul

Reputation See memorandum Personality See memorandum

Influence Very little at the present time

Previous career political agitator in Mosul against Turks. Fled the

country in 1916 and joined Arab army in the Hejaz. After war

organized night schools in Baghdad. Served as deputy representing

Mosul in Parliament in two sessions. Appointed "Director of Oil

Matters" in May, 1931.

Attitude toward the United States As his personal policy dictates.

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations As his personal policy dictates.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Not married

Children

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations None

Clubs

Lineage Christian Arab stock.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum. Changed his name from Nicola Abdul Nour

to Thabit Abdul Nour when he renounced Christianity and became

Moslem.

File name Thabit Abdul Hour Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Consult Diplomatic Serial 520 of August 7, 1925, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Office sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 24, 1932 Prepared by A. K. Sloan

Family name Hour (Surname) Thabit Abdul (Given names)

Highest rank or title Member of Chamber of Deputies

Position Director of Oil Matters

Date appointed May, 1931 Party affiliations Supports the Government

Birthplace Mosul, Iraq Date of birth 1895 (?)

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education In Dominican mission schools of Mosul

Reputation See memorandum Personality See memorandum

Influence Very little at the present time

Previous career political agitator in Mosul against Turks. Fled the

country in 1916 and joined Arab army in the Hejaz. After war

organized night schools in Baghdad. Served as deputy representing

Mosul in Parliament in two sessions. Appointed "Director of Oil

Matters" in May, 1931.

Attitude toward the United States As his personal policy dictates.

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations As his personal policy dictates.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Not married

Children

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations None

Clubs

Lineage Christian Arab stock

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See memorandum. Changed his name from Nicola Abdul Hour

to Thabit Abdul Hour when he renounced Christianity and became

Moslem.



THABIT ABDUL NOUR.

Thabit Abdul Nour is about 36 years of age. He was educated in the Dominican mission at Mosul, his birth-place, and very early in life began to take an active interest in political matters. His opposition to and work against the Turks in Mosul brought him imprisonment and a sentence to death in 1916. In some manner he managed to escape from the Mosul jail, fled the country, and joined the Arab forces in the Hejaz. There he was accorded little recognition and, possibly as a political move, renounced the Christian religion and became a Moslem. If he hoped by this action to better his standing he was evidently disappointed, for, although he followed Emir Faisal to Damascus, he was given no recognition

and

and is reported to have lived in a hand to mouth manner for some months. Later, when Emir Faisal came to Iraq and was elected King of the country, he followed him and took up his residence in Baghdad. Again he had very little success in his efforts to obtain a Government position and lived in obscurity for some time. Eventually he conceived the idea of founding night schools in which the illiterate population of the city could receive instruction. These schools shortly became very popular and at one time had an enrollment of 2,000 or more. Whether Thabit Abdul Nour displayed this keen interest in the education of his countrymen in order to advance his political projects cannot be stated. However, it is quite possible that that was the case as it was known that His Majesty, King Faisal, was very much interested in the education of his subjects. At any rate he soon became personally known to King Faisal through this work and was often summoned to the Palace to discuss matters pertaining to it.

It is reported that in 1924 he was able to convince His Majesty that, if elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies, he would consistently support His Majesty's policies. Having received assurance of Government support, he announced himself a candidate to represent the Moslems of Mosul in the Chamber of Deputies and was elected. Since that date he has served in two Parliaments, but was appointed "Director of Oil" in May, 1931, resigned from the Chamber and accepted that position. Lately, in addition to his other duties, he has been appointed the manager of Iraq's first Agricultural and

Industrial

and is reported to have lived in Baghdad for some months. Later, when he was elected King of the country and took up his residence in Baghdad, he succeeded in his efforts to obtain and lived in obscurity for some time and conceived the idea of founding a school for the illiterate population of the city. There schools shortly after and at one time had an enrollment of 1000. Thabit Abdul Hour displayed in the education of his countrymen his political projects cannot be stated as to the fact that was the case that His Majesty, King Faisal, was in the education of his subjects, and became personally known to King Faisal and was often summoned to the Palace pertaining to it.

It is reported that in 1924 he was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies, he would constantly supply petitions. Having received numerous petitions, he announced himself a candidate for election to the Chamber of Deputies. Since that date he has been a member of the Chamber of Deputies and has been elected Director of the Chamber and Secretary of the Chamber and has been elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies.

Industrial Exhibition which will be held in Baghdad during the month of April, 1932.

Thabit Abdul Nour is a hard working official and a very clever man. He is well read along certain lines, has decided opinions upon most matters and is prepared at any time to give an extemporaneous talk on almost any subject. In this country where religious matters are very much in the foreground, he has not earned a good reputation among the Christians by changing his religion. They consider him to be one of the most unscrupulous politicians in Iraq and accuse him of almost every crime in the decalogue. While the Christian estimate of his character must be taken with a great deal of reservation, it should be noted that he has little better reputation among large numbers of his co-religionists.

During his service as a member of the Chamber of Deputies, he appeared to be concerned chiefly with efforts to bring himself before the public. As Iraqi politicians seem to know of no method of advertising themselves so efficient as violent attacks upon the mandatory power or proclaiming themselves to be a champion of the Arab race, it is not surprising that he consistently followed this policy.

He speaks fluently, pays little attention to facts, and has a great power of invective. He has often carried his points by his persistence and his long speeches. I have been informed on good authority that he was the politician who held up the ratification of the Tripartite Convention between the United States, Great Britain, and Iraq for some weeks, speaking on one occasion before the

Foreign

Foreign Relations Committee for over three hours and basing his attack upon statements the foolishness of which was very apparent to any one who studied that document. It appears that the Prime Minister within a few weeks after the assembling of Parliament in November, 1931, became very disgusted with his attitude and his trouble making propensities and began to plan some means of removing him from an office in which he had caused the Government a great deal of annoyance. Finally in May, 1931, when the new agreement with the Iraq Petroleum Company was ratified, it was decided that Government should appoint an Iraqi official to look after oil matters. Accordingly, the office of "Director of Oil Matters" was created and the position offered to Thabit Abdul Nour. This politician realized that an attempt was being made to get him out of Parliament, and, believing that he would have little chance to bring himself before the people in this new position, declined for some time to accept. However, the salary attached to this office - Rupees 1,000 per month - probably appeared a large sum to a man who has no income and he finally resigned from Parliament and took up these new duties.

Thabit Abdul Nour appears to have a fine opinion of his own knowledge and abilities and seldom hesitates to announce his own views no matter whose susceptibilities he wounds. With those who differ with him in the slightest he adopts a sarcastic and sneering attitude, or engages with them in violent altercations. He will in all likelihood never be a popular politician nor be able to attract a political following. Moreover, it is reported

that

that political leaders in the country do not trust him, as he has on many occasions failed to keep his promises. However, Iraq appears to have at the present time very few men of prominence who seem capable of managing Government matters, and this man who has forced his way from political obscurity to a position where he must be recognized, will probably make his influence felt. Possibly he will be able to utilize his position as "Director of Oil Matters" to get before the public as the champion of the poor Iraqi against foreign capital, but, whatever the means he will use, it appears to me that he is too ambitious, too clever, too hard working to drop into political obscurity.

File No. 844.
AKS/skl.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.

A true copy of
[Signature]

Shaikh Salman al Barrak

File name (Best known name only)

Nationality Iraqi

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Consult Diplomatic Serial 589 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Place Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation March 25, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name al Barrak Salman
(Surname) (Given name)

Highest rank or title Vice President Chamber of Deputies.

Position As above.

Date appointed November 1, 1930 Party affiliations Supports Government

Birthplace Hillah, Iraq. Date of birth 1879 (?)

Residence Home at Hillah, but he usually resides at Baghdad.

Education Shiah schools; secondary schools of Baghdad.

Reputation See memorandum. Personality See memorandum.

Influence He is very influential among the Shiah tribes.

Previous career Census clerk at Hillah prior to war. Is a shaikh of a

tribe near Hillah and remained with his tribe during the war. In

the tribal revolt of 1920 he aided the British. Since that date

he has served in all three of Iraq's parliaments usually as Vice

President of Chamber of Deputies. Served in one cabinet as Minister

of Irrigation and Agriculture.

Attitude toward the United States Indifferent

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Pro-British

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Married Shiah woman

Children (?)

Religion Shiah Moslem Recreations none

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



SHAIKH SALMAN AL BARRAK.

Salman al Barrak is the Shaikh of a small Shiah tribe residing in the neighborhood of Hillah, near the site of ancient Babylon. He received what education he could obtain in the Shiah schools at Hillah and in the Turkish schools in Baghdad. During the war he remained with his tribe, but after the war adopted a very pro-British attitude which he has maintained to the present day.

While the Shaikh's tribe is not large enough to give him much importance in the country, he is related to several very powerful Shaikhs whose tribes occupy

lands

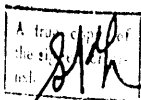
lands along the banks of the Euphrates and it was due chiefly to their influence that he was elected a member of the Constituent Assembly of Iraq in 1921. Since that time he has served in all of Iraq's Parliaments - three in number - and has been chosen by the members as Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies in each one of these. He was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation in 1928 and again in 1929.

Shaikh Salman al Barrak is a man who is very popular with those who know him. He is kind and hospitable, and his pleasing personality usually makes those who work with him his friends. While he never received much education he has studied the affairs of his country and is probably as well versed in them as any man in the Chamber of Deputies. It is said that when Parliament is in session he makes up his mind as to the worth of any bill without hesitation and that as Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies his sole aim seems to be to push legislation through as rapidly as possible.

File No. 844.
AKS/skl.

Copy to:

E. I. C., Paris.



File name Ja'far Chalabi Abu Timman Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 580 of August 7, 1926*, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department. Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq. Date of preparation March 25, 1932 Prepared by A.K. Sloan

Family name Abu Timman (Surname) Ja'far Chalabi (Given names)

Highest rank or title Minister of Commerce

Position One of chief Opposition leaders

Date appointed --- Party affiliations Extreme Opposition

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1881 (?)

Residence Baghdad

Education Shiah schools of Baghdad.

Reputation Excellent Personality Pleasing personality

Influence Great influence among the Shiah's

Previous career Merchant in Baghdad prior to and during the war. Ap-

pointed a member of Iraq's Constituent Assembly. Appointed

Minister of Commerce in Iraq's first Cabinet in 1921. Since that

date has held no government posts and has always opposed the
government.

Attitude toward the United States Apparently friendly.

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Very anti-British; anti-French; pro-Persian

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Shiah woman

Children Four or five young children.

Religion Shiah Moslem Recreations none

Clubs none

Lineage Arab

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.



JA'FAR CHALABI ABU TIMMAN.

Ja'far Chalabi Abu Timman is a Shiah Moslem. He comes from a mercantile family which established itself in Baghdad some generations ago. The family was only moderately prosperous until the days of Haji Daoud, his grandfather, who was the first member of the family to be called Abu Timman (rice merchant). It is said that this family name was the consequence of the following incident: The Turkish governor of Baghdad had speculated heavily in rice only to find the market growing weaker and weaker and prices steadily falling. He attempted to sell on the market but finding no buyers was soon on the verge of bankruptcy. In this extremity he summoned Haji

Daoud

and ordered him to take this rice off his hands. Since the power of the Turkish officials was great and they did not hesitate to use it, Haji Daoud felt it expedient to obey the order. It soon became evident that he had made his purchase at the lowest tide of the market, for demand became brisk and Haji Daoud finally sold out at a price which made him one of the richest men in Baghdad. Through this transaction the family fortune was established, and the family name acquired.

While Ja'far Chalabi has engaged in the mercantile business and has interested himself in many local industries it is thought that he has not been very successful and that the fortune left by Haji Daoud has been greatly depleted. However, this man in his business dealings has always been honest and his reputation as a business man has given him a certain amount of influence in Baghdad business circles. He is also looked upon by the Shiahhs as one of their most prominent men as was indicated in 1920.

In that year news was received in Baghdad that the League of Nations was planning to give to the British a mandate over Iraq. Ja'far Chalabi was opposed to this mandate over Iraq. Ja'far Chalabi was opposed to this and insisted upon the complete and immediate independence of the country. He joined with several other prominent Shiahhs and Sunnis in a campaign to achieve his end and made a not very successful attempt to unite Sunnis and Shiahhs against the British. The agitation which these leaders stirred up finally lead to the revolt of 1920 and owing to his part in this affair Ja'far Chalabi was compelled to flee from the country. The revolt while

unsuccessful

and ordered him to take this office
the power of the Turkish officials
not hesitate to use it, but I
they the order. It soon became
his purchase of the lowest
man and became broke and left
price which made him one of the
through this transaction the family
ed, and the family name
While Ja'far Chalabi has engaged
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this it is thought that he has no
and that the fortune left by his
dejected. However, this man in his
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business circles. He is also
as one of their most prominent men
1931.

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The League of Nations very much
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to the country.

unsuccessful caused the British to decide to give up
the military occupation of the country and to establish
a civil government. Ja'far Chalabi was soon permitted
to return and was made, by the British, a member of
Iraq's Constituent Assembly and later the Minister of
Commerce in Iraq's first cabinet. If the British
thought to placate him by giving him a prominent place
in the civil government they must have been disappoint-
ed for within a short time he was again in trouble.

In August, 1922 a wave of discontent against the
British which had been steadily growing, broke out and
resulted in civil disturbance in Baghdad which for a
time looked serious. British officials were convinced
that Ja'far Chalabi had been one of the instigators of
this disturbance. They seized him, deported him to an
island in the Persian Gulf, but permitted him to return
within a few months. On his return the whole Shiah com-
munity turned out to greet him and since that date his
popularity with his co-religionists has been great.

Since the deportation, Ja'far Chalabi has not held
any public office. However, he has been very active in
politics, opposing practically every treaty with the
British or projects sponsored by the British. He has
waged an unceasing campaign for the revocation of the
Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 1930, claiming that this Treaty,
which will take effect only when Iraq becomes a member
state of the League of Nations, gives the British just
as much power in the country as they have had in the
days of their mandate.

During

During the summer of 1931 Ja'far Chalabi took a very active part in the general strikes which were called by labor organizations in various cities of the country. He was constantly in consultation with the strike leaders and as a matter of fact was supposed to be one of the main instigators of these strikes.

At the present time leaders of the moderate opposition have thrown in their lot with Ja'far Chalabi and the other leaders of the extreme opposition. It is thought however, that this union will be temporary only and that Ja'far Chalabi may soon find himself unsupported by any but his own group. It appears to be certain that while Nuri Pasha al Said, Ja'far Pasha al Askeri and other members of the Sunni group, who now control the government of the country, retain any vestige of their power, Ja'far Chalabi will never be permitted to hold a government office. However, this man has a great deal of influence with the Shiah who are numerically more powerful in the country than the Sunnis; on account of his work during the strikes he is looked upon by leaders of labor organizations as their champion; and by his bitter and unceasing opposition to the British and the group of Sunnis who control the government he has drawn into his following hundreds of minor officials who feel that they have a cause of grievance against the present government. It seems certain that due to his large following and his influence among various classes of the population, he is a man to be reckoned with and will exert some influence on the history of Iraq during the next few years.

File No. 844.

AKS/skl.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

File name Grobba (Best known name only) Nationality German

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 587 of August 7, 1926, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Berlin Date of preparation April 14, 1932 Prepared by S. E. O'DONOGHUE

Family name Grobba (Surname) Fritz (Given names)

Highest rank or title Doctor

Position German Chargé d'Affaires and Consul at Bagdad

Date appointed April 1932 Party affiliations

Birthplace Gartz a/Oder, Germany Date of birth July 18, 1886

Residence

Education University education with degree in law

Reputation good Personality

Influence

Previous career Entered foreign service as Dragoman at Consulate in Jerusalem; military service 1918; later in Foreign Office; 1926 Chargé d'Affaires at Kabul; Foreign Office 1928 to latest appointment.

Attitude toward the United States

Service in the United States

Attitude toward other nations

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Yes

Children 1

Religion Recreations

Clubs

Lineage

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

Copy to E. I. C.
Bagdad

Kadhimi (or Kozemi), Bayid Baqir
File name Khan (Best known name only) Nationality Persian

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 580 of August 7, 1926, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Port Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Sept. 28, 1932 Prepared by E. N. Hughes

Family name Kadhimi (Kozemi) Baqir Khan
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Mirza Khan Luadhab al Dowleh

Position Persian Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Iraq.

Date appointed 1932 Party affiliations Royalist

Birthplace Toheran Date of birth 1309 Hegira about 1889

Residence Baghdad, Iraq - Persian Legation.

Education Preliminary, secondary and high schools in Toheran, Iran.
at American University, Washington, D.C.

Reputation - Personality Reported excellent

Influence not known

Previous career Clerk in Foreign Office. Director for Foreign Affairs.

Sent on special mission to Badkuba and Tiflis. Counselor of Legation
at Washington and later Charge d'Affaires. On special mission to
Iraq in 1928. Counselor of Embassy at Kabul. Minister of
Communications and Roads.

Attitude toward the United States Believed most friendly

Service in the United States Counselor of Legation at Washington one year.
Charge d'Affaires three years.

Attitude toward other nations -

Personal intelligence:

Marriage -

Children -

Religion Mohammedan Recreations -

Clubs -

Lineage -

REMARKS (Including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.

Memorandum.

Muhadhab al Dewleh al Mirza al Saiyid Baqir Khan Kadhimi, new Persian Minister to Iraq, was born in Toheran in the year 1309 Hegira (about 1889). He completed his preliminary, secondary, and high school studies in Toheran and graduated from the college of law and political science in that city. He obtained his B.A. at the American University at Washington, D.C.

Baqir Khan Kadhimi entered the Persian Foreign Office as a clerk in 1330 Hegira, and later became Director for Foreign Affairs, which position he held for two years. He was sent by the Shah to Badkuba and Tiflis to conclude a treaty with the Caucasus Government. Baqir Khan was appointed Counselor of the Persian Legation in Washington in 1341 Hegira where he remained four years, three years of which he was Charge d'Affaires. From Washington he returned to Toheran and again became Director for Foreign Affairs. While occupying this position he was sent to Iraq in 1347 Hegira (about 1928) to negotiate for the recognition of Iraq by the Persian Government. On his return to Toheran he was appointed Counselor of the Legation at Kabul and remained there until the Afghan revolt. Baqir Khan was appointed Assistant Minister of Communications and Roads on his return from Kabul and was later elevated to the head of that Ministry. Baqir Khan speaks fluent English and French and understands Arabic although he does not speak it fluently.

Baqir

Bagir Khan for a time occupied the chair of Professor of History, Administrative Sciences, Constitutional and Geographical Laws in the Law College at Teheran.

Copy to E. I. C.

COPY FOR BAGHDAD.

Form for Diplomats, Officials, Eminent Persons,
Journalists, etc.

File name YOUNG (Best known name only) Nationality British

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Work.—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 583* of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post London, England. Date of preparation Oct. 14, 1932. Prepared by B.T.Jr.

Family name Young (Surname) Hubert Winthrop (Given names)

Highest rank or title Sir

Position Minister Plenipotentiary to Iraq.

Presented credentials

Date appointed Oct. 10, 1932. Party affiliations

Birthplace Date of birth July 6, 1885.

Residence

Education Eton and Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

Reputation Personality

Influence

Previous career. Entered the Royal Garrison Artillery, Dec. 22, 1904; Indian Army Dec. 1908. Promoted Captain, 1913; Major, 1919. Asst. Political Officer, Mesopotamia, Dec. 1915 to Aug. 1917. Deputy Director of Local Resources, Aug. 1917 to March, 1918. General Staff Officer (2nd Grade) Hedjaz operations, Mar. to Oct. 1918. President Local Resources Board, Damascus, Oct. 1918. Employed in Foreign Office from Feb. 1919 to Feb. 28, 1921. D.S.O. 1918. Retired from Indian Army, 1927. Asst. Secretary, Colonial Office 1921-26. Colonial Secretary, Gibraltar, 1927. Counsellor to High Commissioner to Iraq 1929-32. Decorated by the Iraq Government.

Attitude toward the United States

Service in the United States

Attitude toward other nations

Personal intelligence:

Marriage 1924. Miss Margaret Rose Mary Reynolds

Children 3 sons

Religion Recreations

Clubs Travellers (Bagdad, Iraq).

Lineage 2nd son of Sir William Mackworth Young.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

Press reports refer to him as "Sir" Hubert Young but latest biographical reference books do not show source of title. It seems that he was to have presented his credentials simultaneously with the proclamation of the independence of Iraq but the air line bringing the documents from the Foreign Office was delayed. It is said that he will hold his new office only for a short time, until the return from leave of Sir Francis Humphreys, the last High Commissioner, and will then depart to take up his duties as Governor of Nyasaland in succession to Sir Shenton Thomas.

BT/EMC.

File name Farisy, Nasrat Beg Al Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note—Consult Diplomatic Serial 587 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 17, 1932 Prepared by S. K. Lafoon

Family name Al Farisy, Nasrat
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Minister of Finance

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1894

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Primary and Secondary Schools, and graduate of Law College, Baghdad.

Reputation Clever and Active Personality Pleasant

Influence Little if any. Has taken no part in politics up to present time.

Previous career Warrant officer in the Turkish Army during the war.

Member of Chamber of Deputies for Diyala Liwa. Appointed March

1, 1928 as Director of Judicial Administration in Ministry of

Justice. Made Chief of Legal Drafting Department in the Ministry

of Justice, which position he was holding at the time of his

appointment as Minister of Finance in the present cabinet.

Attitude toward the United States Not known

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Indifferent.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage --

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations None

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage -

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

Nasrat Beg is considered to be well versed in judicial
matters. He has had no experience in financial matters, his
career up to the present time having been devoted entirely to
judicial affairs.

File name Mahdi, Abbas Beg Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note: Consult Diplomatic Serial 587 of August 7, 1929, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files of the Department.
Others sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 17, 1932 Prepared by S.K. Lafoon

Family name Mahdi Abbas
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Minister of Education

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth September 14, 1898

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Primary and Secondary Schools, and Law College of Baghdad

Reputation None Personality Nil

Influence None. Has been only a minor government official up to present time.

Previous career Has been an employee of the Iraq Government since

September 1, 1918. Appointed Assistant Secretary in the Ministry

of Irrigation and Agriculture on August 19, 1927. Appointed

Secretary of Iraq Legation at Teheran February 2, 1931, which

position he held until his appointment to a cabinet post on

November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States None

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Pro-Persian

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Yes

Children Not known

Religion Shiah Moslem Recreations -

Clubs -

Lineage -

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

The portfolio of Minister of Education is usually held by
Shiah Moslem, since in the eyes of the Iraqis it is the least of
importance. He was chosen for this post because he is one of the
few Shiah government officials who has shown any ability whatsoever.

File name Rasheed, Abdul Kadir Beg Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note—Consult *Diplomatic Serial 582* of August 7, 1925, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and one for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

For Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 17, 1932 Prepared by S. K. Lafoon

Family name Rasheed Abdul Kadir
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1894

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Primary, Secondary, and Law College, Baghdad

Reputation Good Personality Pleasant

Influence Considered a clever young man. No particular influence at present due to age.

Previous career Entered the Iraq Government Service March 24, 1919 in minor capacity. Appointed Acting Secretary to Council of Ministers March 1, 1925. Appointed Secretary to Council of Ministers on June 20, 1925 which post he held until appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs on November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States Apparently friendly

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Apparently friendly

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Engaged

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations --

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage Member of the Gailani Family, a prominent family of Iraq.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See Attached Memorandum

ABDUL KADIR BEG AL RASHEED

Abdul Kadir Beg is a clever, energetic, and affable young man and, although he has never before held an executive position, it is believed he has gained sufficient experience from his seven years as Secretary to the Council of Ministers to enable him efficiently to administer the detailed work of his new position. However, it is not believed that he will be able to command or control the attention of either of the two Parties and that when it comes to formulating policies he will only be a figurehead.

File No. 844.
SKL.

Copy to H. I. C.

File name Shawkat, Najj Beg Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Consult Diplomatic Serial 829 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
When sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

For Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 17, 1932 Prepared by S.K. lafoon

Family name Shawkat Pasha, Najj
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Prime Minister and Acting Minister of Interior

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1891

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Primary and secondary schools of Baghdad. Graduate of Law College.

Reputation Good. Conscientious and steady worker. Personality Pleasant

Influence Has the respect of his superiors but not always their support.

Previous career Officer in Turkish and Hejazian forces during World War.

Many times Mutassarif of various Liwas. Minister of Interior June

1, 1928 to April 28, 1929. Minister of Justice Sept. 19 - November

18, 1929. Minister of Interior Nov. 18, 1929 to March 23, 1930.

Minister to Ankara August 4, 1930 to November 5, 1931. Minister

of Interior Nov. 5, 1931 to November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States Indifferent

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations Not known

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Yes

Children Three (Two sons and one daughter)

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations None

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage Very good Arab family

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached Memorandum.



NAJI BEG SHAWKAT

Naji Beg was captured by the British during the war and imprisoned in India. Upon being released at the outbreak of the Arab revolt Naji Beg enlisted in the Sherifian Army where he remained until the end of the war.

On February 1, 1921 he was appointed Acting Mutassarif of the Baghdad Liwa and has remained in Government service since that date. He has held the posts of Assistant Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa, Acting Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa, Acting Mutassarif of Kut Liwa, Mutassarif of Kut Liwa, Mutassarif of Hillah Liwa, Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa, Mutassarif of Mosul Liwa, Minister of Interior in Iraq's 8th, 11th, and 13th cabinets, Minister of Justice in Iraq's 10th cabinet, and Minister to Ankara from August 4, 1930 to November 5, 1931.

While Mutassarif of the Mosul Liwa Naji Beg incurred the disfavor of Palace officials by granting permission to the Mosul schools to take their annual examinations in the house reserved for His Majesty King Faisal,

without

Copy to E. I. C.

Biographic Data of Naji Beg Shawkat Pasha

Naji Beg Shawkat Pasha is a member of a good family of Baghdad. He has a pleasing personality, very conscientious, steady, good character, intelligent and able man. He was born in Baghdad in 1891, was educated in Constantinople and is a graduate of the law college of that city. During the war he was enlisted in the Turkish Army as non-commissioned officer and was captured by the British and sent to India. Then, he joined the Arab revolt and worked in the Sherifian Army.

After the war, he held the following positions in the Iraq Government:

February 1, 1921 - October 1, 1921

Assistant Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa

October 1, 1921 - October 1, 1922

Acting Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa.

October 1, 1922 - June 12, 1923

Acting Mutassarif of Kut Liwa and then he was confirmed as Mutassarif.

June 12, 1923 - May 21, 1924

Mutassarif of Hillah Liwa

May 21, 1924 - July 27, 1926

Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa.

July 27, 1926 - August 4, 1927

Mutassarif of Mosul Liwa.

Note: A month before his transfer to Baghdad, Naji Beg was suspended from work, owing, it was alleged, to his granting permission to the Mosul schools to pass their annual examination in the house reserved for His Majesty The King without first obtaining permission from the Palace.

August 4, 1927 - June 3, 1928

Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa.

June 3, 1928 - April 28, 1929

Minister of Interior in Sir Abd'ul Muhsin Beg Al Sa'dun's cabinet (Iraq's 8th cabinet).

Cabinet resigned on April 28, 1929 and Naji had to stay a few months without work.

September 19, 1929

September 19, 1929 - November 18, 1929

Minister of Justice in Sir Abdul Muhsin Beg Al Sa'dun's cabinet (Iraq's 10th cabinet).

Sir Abdul Muhsin Beg committed suicide on November 13, 1929, and a new government had to be appointed.

November 18, 1929 - March 23, 1930

Minister of Interior in Naji Beg Al-Suwaidi's cabinet (Iraq's 11th cabinet).

Cabinet resigned on March 9, 1930. Resignation accepted on March 11, 1930. Withdrew from power on March 23, 1930.

August 4, 1930 - November 5, 1931

Appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Iraq at Ankara.

Left Baghdad for his post on September 1, 1930.

November 5, 1931 - November 3, 1932.

Minister of Interior in the cabinet of Nuri Pasha As-Said (Iraq's 12th cabinet).

November 3, 1932

Appointed Prime Minister and formed Iraq's 13th cabinet.

September 19, 1929 - November 18, 1929

Minister of Justice in Sir Abdul Muhsin Beg Al Sa'dun's cabinet (Iraq's 10th cabinet).

Sir Abdul Muhsin Beg committed suicide on November 13, 1929, and a new government had to be appointed.

November 18, 1929 - March 23, 1930

Minister of Interior in Naji Beg Al-Suwaidi's cabinet (Iraq's 11th cabinet).

Cabinet resigned on March 9, 1930. Resignation accepted on March 11, 1930. Withdrew from power on March 23, 1930.

August 4, 1930 - November 5, 1931

Appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Iraq at Ankara.

Left Baghdad for his post on September 1, 1930.

November 5, 1931 - November 3, 1932.

Minister of Interior in the cabinet of Nuri Pasha As-Said (Iraq's 12th cabinet).

November 3, 1932

Appointed Prime Minister and formed Iraq's 13th cabinet.

File NAME Baban, Jalal Beg Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Consult Diplomatic Serial 527 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and one for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

From Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 21, 1932 Prepared by S. K. Lafoon

Family name Baban Jalal
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Minister of Economics and Communications.

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1892

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Primary and secondary schools of Baghdad.

Reputation Good Personality Pleasing

Influence Some influence among the Kurdish tribes

Previous career Qaimmaqam of Samarra Nov. 16, 1921 to July 9, 1922;
Thanaqin July 9, 1922 to August 19, 1925; Dohuk August 19,
1925 to February 1, 1927. Mutassarif of Muntarik February 1,
1927 to April 22, 1930; Kerbala April 22, 1930 to April 21,
1931. Administrative Inspector of Kut and Diyala Liwas April
21, 1931 to November 26, 1931. Mutassarif of Arbil November
26, 1931 to November 3, 1932. Appointed Minister of Economics
and Communications on November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States None

Service in the United States None

Attitude toward other nations No marked attitude toward any nation.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Yes

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations --

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage Baban tribe of northern Iraq

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached Memorandum

JALAL BEG BABAN

Jalal Beg has had much experience in administering various Liwas and is probably the only member of the cabinet, with the exception of Naji Beg Shawkat, who is thoroughly familiar with the duties of a cabinet officer.

Jalal Beg is a relative of Jamal Beg Baban, Minister of Justice in the former cabinet, and a member of the most powerful Kurdish tribe in the northeastern section of Iraq. He will no doubt, together with Jamal Beg, continue to occupy some important government position, probably a cabinet post, due to the government's policy of appeasing the Kurds desire for autonomy by giving one of their influential leaders a post in the cabinet.

File No. 844.
SKL.

Copy to E. I. C.

844

Form for Diplomats, Officials, Eminent Persons, Journalists, etc.

File name Wadi, Jamil Beg al Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 587 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department. Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Place Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 21, 1932 Prepared by S.K. Lafoon
Family name al Wadi Jamil
(Surname) (Given names)
Highest rank or title Beg
Position Minister of Justice
Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None. Loans towards Govern-
ment party.
Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1891
Residence Baghdad, Iraq
Education Primary and secondary schools and Law College of Baghdad.
Reputation Bad. No moral scruples Personality Unpleasant
Influence Some influence due to family connections.

Previous career
Peace Judge of Nejd August 7, 1921 to January 14, 1923.
Judge Baghdad Civil Courts January 14, 1923 to May 30, 1925.
Criminal Magistrate at Baghdad May 30, 1925 to October 10, 1926.
Judge Baghdad Civil Court October 10, 1926 to June 16, 1927.
Senior Peace Judge at Baghdad June 16, 1927 to July 13, 1929.
Director General of Awqaf July 13, 1929 to December 4, 1931.
Director General of Tapu December 4, 1931 to November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States None
Service in the United States None
Attitude toward other nations Apparently none.

Personal intelligence:
Marriage Yes
Children -
Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations -
Clubs Iraq Club.
Lineage

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):
Jamil Beg is not a person who pay much attention to work and
he has held his various government positions solely because of his
close connection with members of the Royal Courts of the King of
Iraq and the Emir of Transjordan. One brother, Shakir Beg al Wadi,
is First Aide de Camp to His Majesty King Faisal and another, Hamid
Pasha al Wadi, is Chief of Emir Abdullah's Court.

COPY TO E. I. C.

File name Khoja, Rashid Beg al Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Form—Consult Diplomatic Serial 527 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Nov. 21, 1932 Prepared by S.K. Lafoon

Family name al Khoja Rashid
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Beg

Position Minister of Defense

Date appointed Nov. 3, 1932 Party affiliations None. Leans towards opposition.

Birthplace Baghdad, Iraq Date of birth 1884

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Graduate Military College, Istanbul.

Reputation Efficient, capable Personality Pleasant

Influence Some

Previous career Officer in Turkish Army during war. Mayor of Baghdad December 11, 1920 to October 1, 1921. Mutassarif of Mosul Liwa February 19, 1922 to October 31, 1923. Mutassarif of Baghdad Liwa October 31, 1923 to May 31, 1924. Mayor of Baghdad September 15, 1924 to July 16, 1925. Elected member of Chamber of Deputies on July 16, 1925. Appointed Consul General at Cairo on September 15, 1928 and remained at that post until appointed Director General of Education on January 15, 1930. Consul General at Beirut from August 3, 1931 to August 15, 1932 on which date he was appointed Charge d'Affaires and Consul General at Mecca. Never assumed charge of that post. Appointed Minister of Defense on November 3, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States Apparently friendly

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Reported to have been on bad terms with the

British at one time.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage Yes

Children Not known

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations None

Clubs Iraq Club

Lineage

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See attached memorandum.

RASHID BEG AL KHOJA

Rashid Beg obtained the rank of Colonel in the Turkish army during the war.

He was removed from office on October 1, 1921 while Mayor of Baghdad due it is alleged to his failure to control the polls of that city and show an unanimous vote for King Faisal.

In 1923 when Mosul was threatened by the Turks and a strong pro-Turkish attitude was being adopted by the residents in that Liwa, Rashid Beg was not considered strong enough to handle the situation and Ja'far Pasha al Askeri was sent there as Military and Civil Governor, and Rashid Beg was transferred to Baghdad as Mutassarif.

While a member of the Chamber of Deputies Rashid Beg joined the Opposition Party and was, during one term, that Party's candidate for President of the Chamber, but was defeated.

Rashid

Rashid Beg was not at all pleased with his appointment as Chargé d'Affaires and Consul General at Mecca and has been in Baghdad since his appointment on August 18, 1932 trying to have this assignment canceled. When the present cabinet resigns, it is generally believed that it is only a temporary one, Rashid Beg probably will be appointed to some diplomatic or consular post. He hopes that the added influence of having been a cabinet member will enable him to obtain a post more to his liking than was his last assignment.

File No. 844.
SKL.

Copy to E. I. C.

File name Hashimi, Zaid ibn el Hussein Nationality Iraqi
(Best known name only)

CONFIDENTIAL BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Note.—Consult Diplomatic Serial 120 of August 7, 1928, and references therein. Forms are to be prepared on typewriter in triplicate, one copy for files and two for Department.
Offices sending communications to the European Information Center should forward extra copy of this form to E. I. C.

Post Baghdad, Iraq Date of preparation Dec. 14, 1932 Prepared by S.K. Lafoon

Family name el Hashimi, Zaid ibn el Hussein
(Surname) (Given names)

Highest rank or title Emir

Position Minister to Turkey

Date appointed February 27, 1932 Party affiliations Government

Birthplace Hejaz (?) Date of birth February 28, 1898

Residence Baghdad, Iraq

Education Attended schools in Hejaz, Turkey, and England.

Reputation Good Personality Pleasing

Influence Some, due to relation to King Faisal.

Previous career In charge of troops in the Hejaz during the Arab Rebel-

lion. Assisted his father King Hussein in the administration of

his kingdom until that monarch was driven out by King Ibn Saud.

Came to Baghdad about 1923 and was given the rank of Colonel in

Iraq Army. Regent of Iraq from August 4, to November 19, 1925.

Appointed Minister to Turkey February 27, 1932.

Attitude toward the United States Not known

Service in the United States none

Attitude toward other nations Pro-Turkish.

Personal intelligence:

Marriage --

Children --

Religion Sunni Moslem Recreations Tennis

Clubs --

Lineage Descendant of the Prophet.

REMARKS (including any outstanding feature of record in international matters, significant utterances for or against the United States, and predilection, if any, for any particular country, etc. In case of a journalist, give particulars as to press represented, sources of information, official connections, if any, etc., and reputation for integrity, accuracy, and fairness. If more space is needed, use second sheet):

See Attached Memorandum.

Copy to E. I. C. and American Embassy, Istanbul.

EMIR ZAID

Emir Zaid is the fourth son of ex-King Hussein al Hashimi of the Hejaz and the half brother of King Faisal. His mother, who is still living, is a Turk. She was the second wife of ex-King Hussein. Emir Zaid is fair of complexion and closely resembles his mother who is said to be a very intelligent woman and a student of English literature.

Emir Zaid was educated in Hejaz, Turkey, and England. During the war he was with his father in Mecca and on June 2, 1916 when his father, King Hussein, fired the first shot of the Arab rebellion, Emir Zaid was left in charge of irregular troops and engaged in driving away the Turks from Hejaz territories, exhibiting marked personal bravery during the campaigns. He remained in Hejaz for some time helping in the administration of his father's Kingdom. About 1923 he came to Baghdad and was given the rank of Colonel in the Iraq Army. A few months later King Faisal sent him to England to further his studies. Later he returned to Baghdad and on August 4, 1925 the King issued a Royal Irada appointing Emir Zaid as Regent during the absence of His Majesty from Iraq. He acted in that capacity from September 8, 1925 to November 15, 1925. Emir Zaid was living in Egypt at the time of his appointment as Minister to Turkey.

It is said that the Turkish Government suggested the appointment of Emir Zaid as Minister at Ankara and the fact that he is very much persona grata would

seem

seem to substantiate this rumor.

Emir Zaid is reported to be a rather gay bachelor, somewhat sporty, and very much the "man about town". He is popular and very open-handed.

Last summer King Faisal attempted to form a coalition cabinet with Emir Zaid as Prime Minister. This act would have required a change in the constitution which provides that no relative of the King can become a member of the cabinet. King Faisal was well aware of this provision in the constitution and was not adverse to having it changed in order to carry out his plan. However, this suggestion met with such violent opposition from the leaders of both parties that King Faisal was compelled to abandon the idea.

In addition to his salary from the Iraq Government, Emir Zaid has private income from his father's properties in Egypt.

File No. 844.
SKL.

SKL